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WASHINGTON.

THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

EFFORTS OF OUR GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE PEACE TO CUBA—HOW THE RESULT MAY BE REACHED—A DECISIVE MILITARY CAMPAIGN BY SPAIN PROBABLE—WHAT MAY FOLLOW ITS FAILURE.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Dec. 31, 1875.

The President in his annual Message to Congress gave a sort of promise that, before the end of the session, he would make a further communication with reference to the questions under discussion between this Government and Spain. Until this supplementary Message has been received frequent cock-and-bull reports of what our Government has done, or intends to do, may be anticipated. We believe, however, that our readers may feel entire confidence, whatever time a "sensation" springs up concerning our relations with Spain, that it is based on rumor and misinformation alone. This is the case, for instance, with a report to the effect that our Government has sent a circular abroad asking the co-operation of European powers in measures to suppress the disturbances in Cuba. It seems not that these powers have had their attention called to the part of the annual message in which our Spanish relations are discussed, and that, so far as heard from, they accept the expression that the position of the United States is right; that the time has come when Spain ought to control with a strong hand in Cuba and put an end to the unequal conflict, or failing to assert her sovereignty, she should agree to such mediation or intervention as would ensure peace in the island. Spain has received precisely the same representations that have been made to other Governments of the views of the United States, and that these representations are not of a nature to give her cause of complaint. At the same time there is no doubt that the efforts of our Government to secure a pacification of Cuba and the purposes of just to make our just demands would be materially strengthened by the knowledge that such policy is approved by other powerful nations, and by their declaration to that effect of such approval. There is nothing in the Monroe doctrine which prohibits the United States, in dealing with any foreign power, from the adoption of a policy which meets the probation of the whole world, except a few adventurers at home who desire war. There is not now a nation in Europe that does not understand and respect the views of the United States with reference to foreign interference in political affairs on the American continent. It is on this account, doubtless, that some of them, whose commercial interests in Cuba are not so much affected by the struggle as are our own, have refrained from giving particular attention to the Cuban disorders. While the United States reserve the right of solving the problem presented, there seems to be no reason why the Government may not take advantage of the moral support of the approval of other powers, especially as it may aid in a solution of the difficulties through peaceful measures.

The views of the President must still be fresh in the minds of our readers. He distinctly disclaims any purpose on the part of this Government to add the Island of Cuba to our territory. He finds no grounds for recognizing the independence of the island, nor the belligerency of the insurgents. He thinks, however, that the strife has lasted long enough, and intimates pretty plainly that, by some means, it must be brought to an end. There is no mistaking the meaning of the Message on this point. Spain and the whole world understand it. He speaks of correspondence now in progress, and of propositions submitted which may lead to a satisfactory termination. He alludes to offers of mediation, and to possible events in certain contingencies. It seems to require no great skill in divination to foretell, from the President's announcement, the probable course of affairs between the two Governments for some time to come in the efforts to secure the pacification of the Island.

Spain herself, we are confident, agrees with other powers, which are reported to have received the circular of our Government, that the demands are reasonable, and that some end to the long-endured troubles must be made. Peace must be quite as anxious for peace as any other nation can be. It is expected, therefore, as the first and readiest means of settling the matters at issue, that an unusual effort will be made by Spain to subdue the insurrection. If anything is to be accomplished in this way, it is evident there must be a "short, sharp, and decisive" mili ary campaign, and this is, without doubt, decided upon and projected. The practical result of the opposition of Don Carlos to the present Government leaves the latter free to concentrate its power vigorously against the Cubans. Should the result of a campaign this Winter not be sufficiently decisive to establish Spanish supremacy, and render her Government strong enough to fulfill her obligations toward other powers, is wholly a matter of the future, which a few months will make known. Meanwhile negotiations will continue, and it may be that, without reference to the results of military operations, a treaty will be made covering all possible contingencies of the future. The correspondence will no doubt proceed with some urgency, but it is clear that some time must elapse before the occasion can arise for the special message to be written. It is sufficient for the present to have the assurance that the views of the Government are met in a friendly spirit, and that the Spanish Government seems sincerely desirous of a peaceful and just arrangement.

It is clear, on the other hand, that if Spain should not be able to control in Cuba, the Message might, with or without her consent, have proposes measures of mediation or intervention and the contest. It would seem to be of the highest importance for the successful issue of such measures that they should be undertaken with the moral support of great powers like Great Britain, Germany, France, and Russia, and if the Secretary of State has taken active steps to secure it in advance, we cannot see that his action is not in harmony with the spirit of the Monroe Doctrine, about which some newspapers are just now so much concerned. It is not likely that in case such measures should be contemplated, the Monroe Doctrine would be unheeded, or the honor of the nation unprotected. All contingencies have been foreseen and considered, and the Executive will not be rashly or unlawfully exercised. There is every reason to hope that wise and peaceful counsels will prevail, and that before the adjournment of Congress the last of the serious questions, which will be found in the portfolio of the State Department when he opened it nearly seven years ago, will have found an honorable and satisfactory solution.

THE TAX UPON RAILROAD EARNINGS.

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT PREPARING TO EXAMINE ALL COMPANIES' BOOKS—A DEMAND TO BE MADE FOR THE PAYMENT OF BACK TAXES.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The Treasury Department is preparing to make a general examination of the books of all the railroad companies, in order to ascertain whether they are indebted to the Government for taxes accrued and withheld during the period embraced between Sept. 1, 1863, and Dec. 31, 1871, when the internal revenue tax upon earnings, and gross receipts of railroad companies, ceased by limitations. Officers will be detailed to make the examinations, and report will be made to the Treasury Department of all taxes found to be due for the period named. Where taxes are found to be due demand will be made for payment, the companies so reported to be so indebted being afforded an opportunity to show that they are not so indebted. Should the companies reported as owing taxes decline to make payment when demand is made, suit will be instituted by the United States for the amount returned by the officer, together with the fifty per cent. penalty and one per cent. interest per month prescribed by the Internal Revenue law and the several amendments thereto.

THE VACANCIES IN THE TREASURY.

APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSORS TO BRODHEAD, RUTHERFORD, AND CURTIS—GOV. CARPENTER, OF IOWA, TO BE SECOND CONTROLLER.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Gov. C. C. Carpenter, of Iowa, has been appointed Second Controller to succeed Dr. Brodhead. Gov. Carpenter is the present Governor of Iowa, but his term of office will expire next week. Mr. Brodhead will continue to act until Gov. Carpenter arrives and qualifies. Reuben Williams, of Fort Wayne, Ind., has been appointed Deputy Second Controller, vice Curtis, and O. H. Irish, of Nebraska, has been appointed Third Auditor, vice Rutherford.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

UNEXPECTED ACQUITTAL OF THE INDICTED BONDSMAN—CHANGES IN THE UNITED STATES TREASURER'S OFFICE—NAVAL ORDERS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Chip Thompson, a rope-walker, fell yesterday from a rope, at the corner of King and Royal streets, Alexandria, thirty feet to the cobble-stone pavement, fracturing his arm and breast bone. The injury is dangerous, but not necessarily fatal.

The causes which led to an unexpected acquittal of John Green, indicted for giving false bail in the Snyder case, will, it is likely, be further developed in the course of another investigation. There seems to be no doubt that the persons here who have acted as friends of Green were certain before the jury retired that there would be no verdict. It was held that there were persons on the jury who would not consent to a verdict of guilty. The anxiety of others to be rid of confinement at Christmas times, and the common tendency of men to incline toward the will of the majority, led to an unexpected unanimity for acquittal. There are floating rumors of the use of irregular means to influence jurors, and one of poison having been resorted to to rid the jury of Mr. Hopkins, who died during the trial. Of this no evidence has been produced, and the charge seems to be rather the result of an active imagination than of a careful examination of facts.

At a meeting of colored Republicans yesterday afternoon, the general sentiment was that President Grant should be nominated for a third term.

Capt. J. H. Russell is ordered to special duty at Washington. Assistant Engineer Joseph H. Diamond and Cadet Engineer George B. Ransom are ordered for examination for promotion. Paymaster L. A. Fralley is detached from the duties relating to the Pay Office at Norfolk, and is ordered to remain at the Navy-yard at Norfolk. Paymaster George E. Hendee is detached from the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing and ordered to duty at the Navy Pay Office at Norfolk.

Several changes were made to-day in the United States Treasurer's Office. Mr. Jerome C. Burnett, of Indianapolis, who has been for some months a clerk in that office, has been appointed Chief of the Division of National Banks of the Treasurer's Office, vice H. W. Eaton resigned; and Charles H. Davidge, also of Indianapolis, is appointed Chief of the Division of Issues. It is understood that other changes will be made, among others being that of Chief Clerk of the Treasurer's Office, to which Mr. D. W. Harrington, for a long time a clerk in the Cash Division, will be appointed.

The internal revenue receipts to-day were $482,969 17; for the month, $9,590,663 88; for the fiscal year to date, $57,196,143 25.

The Customs receipts to-day were $257,073 32; for the month, $7,976,832 96; for the fiscal year, $76,023,477 85.

The President stated very recently, in a conversation with two or three gentlemen, that all the disabled soldiers who had been removed from positions in the House of Representatives had been supplied with other places.

All the executive departments closed at noon to-day, in order to give the employes an opportunity to prepare for the New-Year's holiday.

THE CURRENCY.

STATEMENT OF THE AMOUNT OUTSTANDING UP TO DATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The following is a statement of United States currency outstanding at this date:

Old demand notes	$60,642 50
Legal-tender notes, new issue	31,831,365 00
Legal-tender notes, series of 1869	256,436,190 00
Series of 1875	58,854,478 00
Series of 1875	24,705,187 00
One-year notes of 1863	64,485 00
Two-year notes of 1863	19,900 00
Two-year coupon notes of 1863	26,500 00
Compound interest notes	350,620 00
Fractional currency, first issue	4,296,775 01
Second issue	3,120,460 03
Third issue	3,097,926 73
Fourth issue, first series	5,336,796 31
Fourth issue, second series	1,357,368 25
Fourth issue, third series	3,719,018 50
Fifth issue	23,216,827 64
Total	$416,505,439 97

A STEAMER ON JAMES LEDGE.

BOSTON, Dec. 31.—A Newport special says: "The steamer Eolus, which left this port yesterday afternoon for Wickford, to connect with the Shore Line Railroad, struck on James Ledge, Wickford harbor. Her mails and passengers were taken off safely. Her bow is high and dry, and her stern submerged. The A. T. Terrill went to her assistance last night, and returned here at 4 o'clock. Wreckers have gone to her assistance from this port. Her boilers are injured, and she has a large hole in her bow."

MOODY AND SANKEY.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31.—At the noon prayer-meeting to-day quite a large audience was assembled, prominent among which was Theodore Tilton. The meeting was opened by singing a hymn, after which Mr. Moody read from the twenty-eighth chapter of St. Matthew. The usual number of requests for prayer were read, when Mr. Moody delivered a discourse on "The Evils of Intemperance," and, after the benediction, the services closed.

THE CHICAGO MAYORALTY.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Three members of the Citizens' Association to-day sent to the Supreme Court a petition for a mandamus to compel the Common Council of Chicago to order a new election for Mayor, which offers the petitioners declare is meant in the letter and spirit of the law.

LATEST NEWS BY CABLE.

THE BREMERHAVEN CRIME.

DETECTIVES ENDEAVORING TO TRACE THOMASSEN'S MOVEMENTS WITH A VIEW TO DISCOVERING ACCOMPLICES — THE GERMAN PRESS COMMENTS ON AMERICANS.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The London *Times* has the following: "A detective from Bremen has arrived in Liverpool to investigate the operations of Thomassen, alias Thomas, with the view to discovering whether the man had any accomplices. It has been ascertained that Thomassen had made several trips between Liverpool and New-York, and he once attempted to obtain heavy insurances on goods which he wished to ship. The suspicion has been raised that he might have been privy to the loss of the steamer City of Boston in January, 1870. Thomassen and wife left New-York in June following that disaster and went to Dresden, where they lived in a stylish manner. A short time before his death, Thomassen was asked if he knew the Boston. He promptly replied: "Yes; Inman steamer, I knew her very well." The Messrs. Inman have no trace of Thomassen, or Thomas, in their books at Liverpool; but the most careful inquiries will forthwith be made at New-York into the Boston's passengers and cargoes, and the insurances on the latter. Last October Thomassen engaged passage on the steamer Celtic. At that time he made several attempts to insure on a box which he alleged contained $30,000 in gold, and was each time balked by a demand for inspection. He was finally unsuccessful in getting his insurance, but sailed, Oct. 14, and returned, landing at Plymouth Nov. 7. The voyage is therefore presumed to have been wasted, having been made only to quiet suspicion. Thomassen's movements in Liverpool were mysterious. Although he informed the passage brokers that he was an entire stranger, he took his meals and slept away from his hotel most of the time he was in the city. He was seen in company with another person at Waterloo Dock after he visited and inspected the Celtic. The Police believe he had accomplices in Liverpool who may still possess his appliances.

The *Daily News* this morning has a special telegram from Berlin which asserts that the meeting of Americans recently held in that city to protest against the strictures of the German press in associating "American civilization" with the Bremerhaven dynamite horror, has thoroughly attained its object. The German journals have almost unanimously withdrawn their previous unfavorable reflections. The *Morning Standard* also has a special telegram from Berlin on the same subject, which is corroborative of the above. The *National Zeitung* alone sees fit to reiterate its offensive comments.

FRANCE.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY TILL MARCH 8, WHEN THE NEW CHAMBERS MEET—SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—In the Assembly to-day the Permanent Committee was chosen according to an agreement between the various parties. It consists of thirteen members of the Left and twelve of the Right. All the measures remaining to be acted on, principally railway bills, were passed almost without debate.

The Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier, President of the Assembly, then rose and made a speech closing the session. He eloquently recapitulated the achievements of the Assembly, which having undertaken its trust on the morrow of a madly-undertaken war and the horrors of the Commune, had paid the ransom of the country, thus demonstrating its credit and vitality. He continued: "The Assembly has reorganized the internal administration and voted a Constitution, in which individual preferences have been subordinated to love of country. That Constitution is perhaps imperfect; but without it there would be the double peril of despotism and anarchy. You will confide the Constitution to the honor of the President and the wisdom of the new Assembly. You may with confidence submit yourselves to the judgment of the country, for you restore to it its flag and liberties intact." In conclusion he declared the National Assembly prorogued until the 8th day of March, 1876, when the new Chambers are to meet.

The Assembly separated, the Deputies of the Left shouting "*Vive la Republique!*"

M. THIER AND THE CHAMBER—MARSHAL CANROBERT.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The *Times* Paris dispatch says, M. Thiers has accepted a nomination for the Chamber of Deputies from Valenciennes on the condition that, should he be elected to the Senate by Belfort, he will be guided by circumstances in his choice of a seat.

Marshal Canrobert has declined many nominations to a seat in the Senate in order to avoid the appearance of encouraging any manifestation hostile to President MacMahon.

SPAIN.

JOVELLAR TO PUT AN END TO ABUSES IN CUBA.

MADRID, Dec. 31.—*El Crontista*, the Ministerial organ, asserts that Gen. Jovellar, the newly-appointed Captain General of Cuba, is to put an end to all abuses in that Island, quite irrespective of person or position. He will hold all offenders to a full responsibility.

GERMANY.

ARREST AND IMPRISONMENT OF THE BISHOP OF GNESEN AND POSEN—SALE OF DIPLOMAS PRETENDING TO BE AMERICAN.

POSEN, Dec. 31.—The Bishop of Gnesen and Posen, who was recently convicted of violation of the ecclesiastical laws and condemned to six months' imprisonment, has been arrested and sent to prison to serve out the term of his sentence.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—The *North German Gazette* says there is reason to believe that the Government will shortly take steps to prevent the abuses arising from the sale in Germany of American medical diplomas, nearly all of which purport to come from Philadelphia.

TURKEY.

PROJECTED DIRECT RAILWAY FROM CONSTANTINOPLE TO VIENNA.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 31.—Negotiations are pending with Austria with regard to the construction of a direct railway between Vienna and Constantinople.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE NEW ADMIRALTY CIRCULAR STILL UNSATISFACTORY.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The new fugitive slave circular issued by the British Admiralty causes almost as much dissatisfaction as the first one. The Anti-Slavery Society and the Birmingham Liberal Association have protested against it. The latter stigmatize the circular as opposed to human freedom and English feeling, and as disgraceful to the nation.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The *Times* and the *Post* both condemn the Admiralty's fugitive slave circular because it surrenders the principle of the freedom of a British man-of-war from foreign jurisdiction, and on other grounds.

The *Daily News* and the *Standard* also condemn the Admiralty's fugitive slave circular.

MARINE DISASTERS.

THE BRITISH STEAMER DANTE SUNK AND TWENTY-THREE LIVES LOST — OTHER WRECKS.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The British steamer Dante, from Liverpool for Bombay, while going down St. George's Channel to-day, came in collision with the Gronsmer. The steamer sank shortly after the collision and twenty-three persons were drowned.

The ship Mount Royal, Capt. Scobie, from Greenock Nov. 13, for New-York, while returning to port in a leaking condition, was wrecked on Vaterss Island, one of the Outer Hebrides. The crew were saved, and landed to-day.

The Josephine spoke the Navesink Dec. 16. The latter reported she had on board the crews of the American schooners Attuska and Thomas Watt, which had been abandoned at sea.

HEAVY AWARD OF DAMAGES.

THE CLAIM OF A NEW-YORK FIRM AGAINST THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT—DECISION IN FAVOR OF THE CLAIMANTS BY THE BRITISH MINISTER—BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CASE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The umpire in the United States and Mexican Commission, Sir Edward Thornton, rendered his decision on the 29th inst. in the case of the La Abra Silver-mining Company, of New-York, against Mexico, which was submitted to him for decision some months ago upon a difference of opinion between the Commissioners. The claimant is an American Corporation, organized on Nov. 18, 1863, according to the laws of the State of New-York, and having for its object, in part, the carrying on of the business of silver mining at Tayalitta, District of San Dimas, in the State of Durango, Mexico. In pursuance of this object the company, shortly after its organization, acquired extensive and valuable silver mining properties in that district, sent suitable agents, superintendents, and employes of all kinds to work them, and purchased the necessary machinery, mules, and provisions, the total outlay under all these heads being $358,791 06. After working the mine for some time, and accumulating a large quantity of valuable silver ore, the company began to be systematically oppressed and annoyed in its properties and the persons of its agents and employes by the local Mexican authorities and people. Repeated seizures of mule trains, laden with provisions, and of ores at the mines, were made by the authorities, and all demands for redress were refused, and these acts of oppression finally reached a stage that the agents of the company felt constrained to, and did, abandon the works, which had promised handsome return for the capital invested. After reviewing the case in all its points, and considering the evidence pro and con, the umpire decides that the allegations of the claimant are substantially true, and that Mexico is responsible for the damages resulting from the enforced abandonment of the mines. He therefore awards that there be paid by the Mexican Government, on account of the above-mentioned claim, the sum of $358,791 06, with interest at six per cent. per annum from March 20, 1868, to the date of the final award; and further, the sum of $100,000, with interest at six per cent., from March 20, 1869, to the date of the final award; all in Mexican gold coin. As the time of the final award will be the 1st of August, 1876, the principal and interest will amount to $683,030 in gold, or $777,000 in United States paper currency, at the present rate of gold premium. This amount, though large, is not more than about twenty per cent. of what the company claimed to be due. It appears from the testimony and the arguments of counsel on both sides, that Gen. Adams found in the district where the mines are located, in the hands of a former book-keeper of the company, an Englishman, original orders from the Prefect or the *Gefe Politics*, and the local Judge of that district, ordering the company to discontinue or abandon their mines and works, unless the company should work the mines in the manner directed by them, which was simply impossible without ruin to the company. President Lerdo de Tejada forwarded to the Mexican Claim Commission certified copies of orders admitted to have been given by said local authorities, which by comparison with the originals filed by Gen. Adams proved to be genuine. These orders verified the testimony filed by the claimants, and thus aided in gaining the case. The presentation of these orders also shows the fairness of the President of Mexico in filing material testimony which operated against the interest of his own Government. The attorney in fact in this case was Gen. A. W. Adams, of New-York, who was Colonel of the First New York Cavalry regiment in the Army of the Potomac, he having full and complete power from La Abra Mining Company to prosecute the suit and control the proceedings both in Mexico and the United States. He made two trips to Mexico for the purpose of procuring testimony, one in 1870 and the other in 1872, during the war between the Juarez Government and Porfirio Diaz. He employed as counsel, to assist him at Washington, Jeremiah S. Black, F. P. Stanton, W. W. Boyce, and Thomas H. Nelson, late Minister to Mexico. The Mexican Government was represented by Caleb Cushing, Manuel Aspiroz, and Eleuterio Avila.

CRIME IN TENNESSEE.

PARTICULARS OF A DEADLY AFFRAY ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER—THE SUPPOSED MURDERER KILLED BY THE VICTIM'S NEPHEW.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 31.—The *Ledger* says that on Wednesday evening W. Carroll Button was killed at Randolph's Landing, at the head of Island No. 40, by some unknown person. A rifle-ball passed through his heart, and he fell dead near the dwelling of "Jack" Stinson, a fisherman, and a suspicious character, who lived with a woman who is said not to be his wife. Stinson circulated the report that Button had been shot by the Hollis boys, who reside in the neighborhood, and with whom Button had quarreled on the day before, and that after he was shot he reached Stinson's cabin and fell dead. That night Stinson got up a crowd and made a raid on the Hollis boys, firing a number of balls into the dwelling of one of them, but without killing or wounding any one. Yesterday Stinson and young "Tom" Button came to Memphis and obtained a burial case, which they took to Randolph's Landing on the City of Chester. On the way up Button began to suspect that Stinson had killed his uncle, but both being armed no hostilities took place until the boat reached the landing, where a crowd had assembled, as it was proved at the inquest, which was held during young Button's absence, that the Hollis boys were innocent, and that Jack Stinson had shot Button from a window in his cabin. Some one in the crowd cried out to young Button that Stinson had killed his uncle, whereupon Button drew his pistol and commenced firing at Stinson, who, by this time, was in charge of Constable "Dick" Gay and a man named Prewett. Twenty or more shots were fired in rapid succession by different parties. "Jack" Stinson was riddled with balls, and fell dead over the gunwale of the boat. Constable Gay was shot in the arm, and Prewett was shot in the thigh. Stinson had been seen to assassinate Carroll Burton, and this was proved at the inquest. No further particulars concerning the tragedy could be learned.

SALE OF OLD NAVAL VESSELS.

NORFOLK, Dec. 31.—The United States ships St. Lawrence and Macedonian were sold to-day at the Navy-yard here by Leigh Bros. & Phelps, auctioneers, and were purchased by Northern parties. The St. Lawrence sold for $17,900, and the Macedonian for $14,071. These vessels were among the oldest ships in the Navy, and were famous in their day. The Macedonian was captured from the British in the war of 1812 by Capt. Stephen Decatur, commanding the United States frigate United States, and the St. Lawrence was present in Hampton Roads during the engagement with the rebel iron-clad Merrimac. Both have been lying at the Navy-yard, dismantled, for a number of years.

CALIFORNIA MINING STOCKS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.—The following are the closing official prices of mining stocks to-day: Consolidated Virginia, 411; California, 77¾; Segregated Belcher, 88; Ophir, 56; Caollar, 111½; Savage, new stock, 21¾; Imperial, 11; Mexican, 19¾; Gould and Curry, 20¾; Best and Belcher, 59¼; Hale and Norcross, 54¾; Crown Point, 26¾; Yellow Jacket, 111; Empire, 6½; Alpha, 25¾; Belcher, 33½; Confidence, 22¾; Sierra Nevada, 19¼; Exchequer, 12½; Overman, 63½; Justice, 26; Caledonia, 34.

ALBANY.

GOSSIP FROM THE STATE CAPITAL.

THE SPEAKERSHIP AND PRESIDENCY "PRO TEM"—THE CANAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION—OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF THE STATE TO BE LOOKED AFTER.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

ALBANY, Dec. 31.—Fog, mud, and drizzle make up the weather report for this locality, and Albany is trying hard to be cheerful under it. The Centennial year is to have a rousing welcome. At midnight every steeple in the city rings out its greeting, and there will be parades, illuminations, bonfires, fire-works, and other manifestations of public joy. Legislative matters have been almost forgotten in the excitement of making preparations for the Centennial celebration, and there have been few arrivals during the day. A stray Senator or two and some three or four Assemblymen, all new men, are registered, and that is all. To-morrow evening the delegations will begin to come in, and by Sunday night the halls of the Delavan will be crowded with State legislators, busy with preparation for the caucus next evening. There is apparently no doubt as to how the two houses will be organized. The matter seems to have already been generally consented to—that Mr. Husted will be Speaker and Mr. Robertson President *pro tem* of the Senate and Assembly respectively; that Mr. Johnson will be Clerk of the former, Mr. Glidden of the latter, and that the Chairmanships of the more important committees will be given as indicated in yesterday's dispatches, there is scarcely a question. If any change is made in this programme, it will be from some cause now unforeseen. No candidates for the two clerkships, other than the gentlemen named, have considered it worth while to put in an appearance; but for all the subordinate offices in the Legislature the demand is even larger than usual. Many of the applicants, it has been remarked, are men who might have been thought to be above the need of emoluments such as these offices carry. Hard times is the probable explanation. In regard to the forthcoming message of the Governor, there is not much said; but that the Canal Investigating Commission has served its purpose and will virtually expire with the year, is considered to be almost certain. Two of its members become State officers to-morrow, and Gov. Tilden, it is said, has intimated that no successors to them will be named. The commission will give in its final report, and go out of existence, leaving the work of further investigation to the Legislature. Something has been said about the Governor's intention to ask power for the appointment of a committee to investigate other departments of the State Government than that of canals, but this is mere rumor. It is certain, however, that he has been looking over the State Prisons statistics, and if he makes a new reform it will probably have the penal institutions for its object. Should he do this he would only be following in Republican footsteps. Last session the Republicans introduced two proposed Constitutional amendments, and they were both passed by the Legislature. The first of these provided for the appointment, by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, of a Superintendent of Public Works, who should have the powers now exercised by the Canal Board, which was to be abolished. The second provided for the appointment of a Superintendent of State Prisons, who should hold office for five years, unless sooner removed, and who should have the superintendence, management, and control of the prisons, and the appointment of subordinate officers. It was further provided that the office of State Prison Inspector should be abolished, its powers passing to the new officer. The adoption of this amendment would lift the management of the prisons above the influence of politics, and thus put them in a fair way of being economically and judiciously conducted. Both amendments may be expected to come up for action very soon after the meeting of the Legislature. If passed by that body, of which there can be no doubt, they go to the people next November for final approval.

BUSINESS FAILURES.

SUSPENSION OF NUMEROUS NEW-ENGLAND FIRMS REPORTED FROM BOSTON.

BOSTON, Dec. 31.—The Boston *Commercial Bulletin* of to-morrow will contain the following: The old firm of Gardner Bremer & Co. changes its style to J. L. Bremer & Co.—a change only in style, as both John L. and W. M. Bremer have been the active partners in the house for very many years. J. H. Connors, dealer in wholesale liquors, of Haverhill street, Boston, has failed, with liabilities of $70,112 48. The indebtedness to the creditors is for the most part in favor of parties in New-York and Boston. The available assets aggregate $9,200. O. F. Sage, manufacturer of trunks, in Washington street, has failed. A committee of five, consisting of three New-York and two Boston men, was appointed to investigate affairs. The Investigating Committee in the case of E. D. Peters & Co., of Boston, met yesterday and reported in favor of accepting the firm's proposition to go into bankruptcy voluntarily, and then offer a composition with their creditors, on the basis of paying ten per cent. of the debts in three months, ten per cent. in nine months, five per cent. in fifteen months, and five per cent. in eighteen months, all the notes to be unindorsed paper of the firm, and the three months' notes to be without interest. The liabilities of Robert W. Dresser & Co., dealers in woollen goods, in Franklin street, are about two hundred and thirty thousand dollars, and the assets $190,000. The indebtedness is mostly in favor of Boston and New-York parties. At a meeting of the creditors of Shepard, Hall & Co., the Boston lumber house, held yesterday, it was unanimously voted to take thirty cents on the dollar. The business of the firm is to be carried on under the superintendence of the Register until the acceptance of the creditors is confirmed. W. T. Black & Co., harness dealers, in Federal street, have failed. The liabilities are reported at about seven thousand dollars, $2,000 being due to Boston parties, and most of the balance to parties in Maine. At a meeting of the creditors of Bornstein, clothier, Boston, held yesterday, it was voted to take fifty cents on the dollar. Albert T. Robbins, dealer in boots and shoes, Nos. 16 and 20 Essex street, has failed. His indebtedness is about twenty-seven thousand dollars, mostly in favor of New-York parties. The assets are about thirteen thousand dollars. A. J. Smallage & Co., dealers in dry goods, Chauncy street, have failed. The liabilities are reported as $10,000 or $12,000. The liabilities of William H. Healey, of Boston, (in bankruptcy,) are $163,000, mostly in favor of Boston and New-York parties. The liabilities of the suspended furniture firm of Volger Brothers, of Concord, N. H., are $18,004 90, and the assets $9,650. Their creditors have decided to place them in bankruptcy. The creditors of J. B. Lawrence & Co., furniture dealers, of Worcester, have voted to accept a forty cent composition. J. & J. W. Brown, manufacturers of bricks, in Burlington and Colchester, Vt., have been thrown into bankruptcy.

THE REPORTED DISASTER NEAR FIRE ISLAND.

BABYLON, Dec. 31.—A fisherman who has arrived here from Fire Island reports that he heard the fog whistle of a vessel from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. yesterday, and again at 7 this morning, but he does not know of any craft being ashore.

NEW BRUNSWICK SHIPPING.

ST. JOHN, Dec. 31.—The *Globe* this evening publishes statistics of New-Brunswick shipping during the year. It states that 62 new vessels were registered, aggregating 33,919 tons, being a falling off of 23 vessels from last year. The losses during the year were 23 vessels, with a tonnage of 6,519, valued at $240,000. The shipping now owned in the Province numbers 604 vessels, aggregating 272,654 tons, and valued at $7,000,000, being a gain of fifty per cent. since 1869.

THE WHISKY CONSPIRACY.

ANOTHER SEIZURE IN CHICAGO AND ARREST OF A. C. HESING, JACOB REHM, H. B. MILLER, AND J. MINTY, IMPLICATED IN WHISKY FRAUDS.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The important seizures of the illicit distilleries and rectifying establishments on Wednesday have been followed up by the arrest of a number of prominent men in this city, who have, up to the present, escaped being positively implicated in the "crooked" whisky business. To-day the second thunderbolt of the week fell, striking this time the Illinois Distilling Company, Anton C. Hesing, of the *Illinois Staats Zeitung*; Jacob Rehm, ex-Superintendent of Police; H. B. Miller, ex-County Treasurer; and ex-Deputy Collector J. Minty. The seizure of the above distillery was foreshadowed in these dispatches yesterday, but the arrest of the individuals named has been a matter of great surprise. Although it has been intimated at various times that they had laid themselves open to suspicion, no event that has occurred in Chicago for many a day has created so much excitement, forming the topic of conversation everywhere. Shortly after noon Supervisor Mathews, of this District, appeared before United States Commissioner Hoyne, and made affidavit charging the individual mentioned above, in general terms with having conspired to defraud the Government of revenues on distilled spirits, and alleging that the practice had been carried on from March, 1872, down to this date. The specific charges are not made public yet, but it is a well-known fact that Hesing and Rehm were interested in the Chicago and North-western Malt Company, which furnished malt to distillers, and that at the time of, or just before, the first raids were made, the books of this establishment were burned by Rehm's order, he giving as an excuse that they lumbered his premises, and were better out of the way. These books are supposed to have contained some tell-tale figures on the illicit distilleries. Miller is the owner of Black Hawk Distillery, seized on Wednesday. Mr. Hesing, who has long enjoyed the distinction of heading the opposition party in Chicago, was arrested this afternoon and taken before Hayne, who at once held him in bail in $50,000 to appear before the next Grand Jury. The bail was furnished by Washington Hesing, son of A. C. Hesing, and Herman Raster, one of the proprietors and editor of the *Staats Zeitung*, and accepted by the Commissioner. Later in the day Rehm was arrested and held in the same amount, his bonds being accepted. Mr. Miller was arrested this evening, and his bondsmen were Alderman Thomas Lynch, a prominent distiller not yet in durance, and John Herting, the sum being $20,000. At the last accounts Minty, the ex-Deputy Collector, had not been found, and it was feared he had escaped from the city.

Supervisor Matthews had a number of indicted Storekeepers before him to-day, and they furnished a great many important facts, which will be used to secure further indictments and convictions. It appears from these, in connection with the statements of Gaugers examined last night, that much of the testimony against Hesing, Rehm, and Miller was secured at a late hour. To-night the city is full of the wildest rumors, and those who have the advantage of enjoying the confidence of the officials aver that the bands will be drawn yet tighter in political and social circles in this section. It is proposed to show that the Ring had its ramifications in political offices and editorial sanctums, and that even Government officials of high position have not escaped untarnished. The distillery of the Illinois Company has been one of the longest to withstand the onslaught of the Government officials, and the extent of its "crookedness" is not yet known.

VALUE OF THE DISTILLERY SEIZED YESTERDAY.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Revenue Agent Brown and Deputy Collector Springer, acting under orders of Revenue Supervisor Matthews, to-day seized the distillery of the Illinois Distilling Company, formerly known as the North-western Distilling Company, the largest house of the kind now running. Its full capacity is 2,800 bushels a day, and it is owned and operated by Edward F. Lawrence, Joseph F. Ballentine, and John Robinson. There were found 2,000 barrels of liquor at the time of the seizure, and a hasty inventory showed the value of the distillery to be about $120,000.

THE WEATHER.

SYNOPSIS AND PROBABILITIES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1—1 A. M.—The pressure remains highest off the South Atlantic coast. It has fallen decidedly, with increasing south-west winds over New-York and New-England. Cool northerly winds prevail from Texas to the upper lakes. Fog continues over the Middle Atlantic States; south-east winds, slightly warmer, clear or partly clear weather prevail from the Ohio Valley southward.

The rivers have risen at Nashville and Keokuk, and from Cincinnati to Memphis, but fallen elsewhere.

PROBABILITIES.

For Saturday, in the South Atlantic and Eastern Gulf States, stationary barometer and temperature, southerly winds, and clear weather.

For the South-west, Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri Valleys, and upper lake region, rising barometer, colder northerly winds, light rain, followed by clearing weather.

For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, the lower lakes and New-England, stationary or falling barometer, warmer, south-west winds, partly cloudy weather, followed in the northern portion by rain.

For the Middle States, stationary or falling barometer, increasing warmer south-west winds, and clearing weather.

For the canal regions temperature will remain above freezing.

The rivers will continue rising below Cincinnati, without serious overflow.

IN THIS CITY.

The following record shows the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours, in comparison with the corresponding date of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's pharmacy:

1874.	1875.		1874.	1875.
3 A. M. 18°	38°	3:30 P. M.	18°	43°
6 A. M. 10°	37°	6 P. M.	15°	42°
9 A. M. 9°	37°	9 P. M.	14°	41°
12 M. 12°	41°	12 P. M.	10°	41°

Average temperature yesterday.....40°

Average temperature for corresponding date last year.....13½°

GAS EXPLOSION IN BOSTON.

BOSTON, Dec. 31.—Considerable alarm was occasioned this afternoon by a gas explosion at the corner of Franklin and Federal streets. A workman while exploring a basement to detect a leak lit a match when an explosion occurred. He was thrown down but escaped with scarcely any injury. The ceiling was shattered and the floor of stone above badly but damaged.

POLICE BOARD CHANGES.

REMOVAL OF COMMISSIONERS MATSELL AND DISBECKER.

MESSRS. DEWITT C. WHEELER AND JOEL B. ERHARDT APPOINTED IN THE PLACES—THE FIRST MEETING OF THEIR NEW BOARD.

As was predicted in the columns of THE TIMES on Tuesday last, Mayor Wickham yesterday removed Police Commissioners Matsell and Disbecker and appointed in their places Messrs. Dewitt C. Wheeler and Joel B. Erhardt. Messrs. Matsell and Disbecker were officially notified of their removal at 6:30 P. M., and an hour later a meeting of the new board was held. Mr. Wheeler acted as President *

A WONDERFUL WORKSHOP.

THE NEW-YORK POST OFFICE.

THE AMERICAN AND ENGLISH POSTAL SYSTEMS COMPARED—THE MODE OF CITY DELIVERY IN NEW-YORK—MAILS BY RAPID TRANSIT—REMARKABLE PERFECTION OF THE MONEY-ORDER SYSTEM.

The common disposition to criticise and disparage the management of the American postal system, and particularly of the system as administered in this City, often leads people who are imperfectly informed to question the efficiency of the Post Office and indulge in comparisons unfavorable to its management. The mercantile community are frequently invited to compare the best results attained in the palatial workshop which the Government has provided this City with those achieved in offices of foreign cities, and especially in London, and are taught to expect that the comparison will be destructive to the well-deserved reputation of American officials for energy and management. The London Post Office is the central administration of the postal system of England. The Postmaster General has his office in a vast building, which has been in use for twenty years, and being thus in immediate contact with the London Postmaster, and in a central position to watch the wants of the local distribution of mail matter, is able to adopt promptly every suggestion looking to the improvement of the service, and to correct as promptly any irregularity or tardiness in its administration. The postal delivery of London extends over a circle twelve miles in diameter, of which the General Post Office is the centre. This area is distributed into eight postal districts, each with its distributing and dependent offices, of which there are 530. At every corner are found boxes for the reception of letters, which are emptied repeatedly during the day. The carriers, of which there are an innumerable number, are sent out for the delivery of letters twelve times in a day, beginning with 7:30 A. M., obtaining their parcels from the district Post Offices to which they are assigned. Between those offices and their branches and the chief office communication is hourly maintained by carts, which, possessing the right of way, move rapidly along the streets, bearing the local and outward-bound mails. This system, which has been long enough in operation to train its servants, one would suppose, to absolute and machine-like accuracy, is nevertheless the subject of incessant complaints. Letters reaching London by the early morning mail, and which should be delivered at the 9 o'clock round of the carrier, get to the hand of the recipient at noon or later. Correspondence that could only have arrived early in the afternoon comes to the merchant on the following morning. Letters deposited in a pillar-box, and which should reach another district in the metropolis within four hours, are received only at the end of twenty-four hours. It is a fact well known to those conversant with the management of the London office that the delays in transmission of postal matter in that city exceed in frequency and extent any similar faults observable in the New-York office. London possesses an advantage over New-York in having a network of railways over which mail matter is conveyed to the district offices. While not having one-tenth of the facilities necessary for the rapid transit of our mails the Post Office officials here are constantly improving the system of delivery. The office is never closed, and even foreign mails that arrive after midnight are made up and leave on the Fast Mail trains before dawn.

Stamps are sold at the window until 2 o'clock in the morning, and every facility is afforded the public to obtain their letters at all hours. Clerks intercept the trains at Springfield, Mass., Wilmington, Del., and other points to sort the New-York letters that they may be ready for the carriers on their arrival in this City.

PLANS FOR IMPROVING THE SYSTEM.

During the past year the area of City delivery has been largely extended by the discontinuance of the Post Offices included in that portion of Westchester County recently annexed to the City, and formerly known as Mott Haven, High Bridge, Morrisania, Tremont, West Farms, Woodlawn, King's Bridge, Spuyten Duyvil, and Riverdale, all of which (with the exception of Mott Haven and High Bridge) have been made stations of the New-York Post Office, the late Postmasters being appointed Superintendents by Mr. James. At Morrisania the free delivery service was at once introduced by the appointment of six letter carriers—two of them mounted—whose routes cover the district formerly covered by Morrisania, Mott Haven, and High Bridge Post Offices. Additional mail communications by messengers on the New-York and Harlem and New-York Central and Hudson River Railroads has been established between those stations and the General Post Office and its stations on Manhattan Island. Through these improvements the postal facilities of the large population of the above-named suburbs have been largely increased. In June last, Postmaster James obtained from the Postmaster General the assignment of forty-five additional letter-carriers, and at the same time effected a reorganization of the carrier force, which was thereby divided into three classes—"substitute," "auxiliary," and "regular" carriers. All newly-appointed carriers enter the service as substitutes, in which capacity they perform duty in place of carriers absent from duty from any cause, receiving the pro rata pay of those for whom they serve, and are promoted in regular order and according to date of original appointment to the ranks of "auxiliary" and "regular." When a vacancy occurs in the latter class, the oldest auxiliary is appointed to fill it, and his place is filled by the oldest substitute, whose place is, in turn, filled by a new appointment. No removals are made in any class except for misconduct or proved incompetency, and no promotions are made except in regular order. Under this admirable system the substitutes and auxiliaries are qualified in a school of instruction to properly fill the position of "regular" carrier.

Recognizing the important advantages to be secured by direct telegraphic communication between the General Post Office and its stations, Mr. James has repeatedly urged upon the department the necessity of its establishment, and after receiving bids from several telegraph companies for the performance of the service, has been authorized by the Postmaster General to accept the terms offered by the Western Union, with whom a contract (involving only a trifling expense to the department) has been concluded; and wires and instruments connecting the main office with every station in the City are now being rapidly placed in position. Within a fortnight, it is expected, the system will be in full working order, and the postal operations of the entire City thereby placed almost literally "under the thumb" of the Postmaster, so that inquiries can be made, errors reported and corrected, and orders dispatched instantaneously. The advantages which will thereby be secured can hardly be overestimated.

The increase of the carrier force was followed by the addition of an evening (7:30) delivery within that portion of the City lying between Canal street and Fifty-ninth street on the west, and Seventieth street on the east side—an improvement heartily and specially appreciated by the residents of those districts, who are thereby enabled to receive the same evening their letters which reach the Post Office in the mails arriving as late as 5:30 P. M.

The work on the extension of the line of the Elevated Railway to Fifty-ninth street will no doubt be soon completed, and in anticipation of that fact, the Postmaster has made arrangements for the transportation, by that road, of the mails for the upper portion of the City, and by a wagon service connecting with the railway at Fiftieth street, for the supply of the districts of Stations O on the west side and Stations H, F, K, and L, (all on Third avenue,) with their mails with greatly increased frequency and rapidity. It is not intended that the improvements in the City delivery branch of the service shall be confined to those noted above. Various others are in contemplation which will still further increase its efficiency, and there is every reason to hope that this important element in the commercial and social prosperity and convenience of our City will at no distant day reach a degree of excellence which may challenge a comparison with the system of letter delivery in any city in the world. Among the obstacles to a rapid delivery is the fact that carriers, after their letters are ready for distribution, are often oblized to walk a long distance from the office before reaching their routes, and it is proposed to overcome this difficulty by means of omnibuses transporting the carriers to their routes, and conveying them to the office after each delivery is finished.

Special Agent Sharrats says that since the publication in THE TIMES of the depredations made by the messengers of mercantile houses, the number of complaints has been very small compared with those made previous to that time. Many merchants deposit and receive all their letters, and now experience no difficulty.

THE MONEY ORDER DIVISION.

There is no department of the Post Office more efficiently and systematically managed than the Money Order Division, under the supervision of William Plimley. Thousands of orders are paid daily without the discrepancy of a penny, and where there are any delays of payment, it invariably turns out that the remitter is at fault. New-York office being the chief of the money order system of the United States, all the correspondence referring to the British, German, Swiss, and Canadian international business emanates from this department. "There are," said the Superintendent, "about 1,800 Post Offices in the United States that issue and pay British, German, and Swiss money orders. It is not to be supposed that the Postmasters of these offices have any definite knowledge of the names of Post Offices in the various countries of Europe. All we can expect is a legible address, and when that is obtained we designate the nearest money-order office where the order can be made payable. So experienced have the clerks in the International Department become that, though many of the foreign orders are supplied with imperfect, incorrect, or illegible particulars of payee's name and place of residence, not more than four per cent. of the number of orders issued in this country payable abroad are delayed an hour beyond the time actually required to pass from the hand of the sender to that of the receiver.

Surrounding the International Bureau are the most elaborate maps of every country in Europe. Frequently, through the inability of the sender to supply a proper address, a village of hamlet is named, and then we go for the map. In such emergencies we trust to the judgment and discretion of the clerk. The detention of orders that cannot be certified necessitates more or less correspondence, all of which passes through the hands of Postmaster James. We have not compiled our annual report," remarked the Superintendent, "but I can furnish THE TIMES some memoranda which will enable its readers to form some idea of the growth of the International Money Order business. During the first two weeks of this month, the Christmas offerings from persons having relations abroad, swelled our receipts immensely. On account of the hard times in the many manufacturing and mining localities, it was supposed there would be a considerable falling off in the value, if not the number, of money orders received for transmission to Europe. In 1874, during the same period of two weeks, there were received at this office for transmission to the London office, 7,121 orders, amounting to $107,914, an average of about $15 15 per order. This year we received 7,060 orders, amounting to $105,637, averaging $15 per order. In 1874 we received during the same period 4,382 German orders, amounting to $75,682, an average of $17 28 per order. This year we received 4,716 orders, amounting to $80,096, averaging $17 per order. It will be seen from this that there was an increase in the German and only a trifling decrease in the British."

From Gen. La Rue Harrison, Special Agent of the Money Order Department, it was ascertained that in point of amount of money-order business transacted, Chicago is next to New-York, it having paid over five hundred thousand orders during the past year. Boston paid 180,000; Baltimore and St. Louis about 175,000; Philadelphia, 160,000. The Canadian business has been in operation about five months, and is increasing very rapidly. The following statement of the money-order business of the New-York Post Office for the past year is approximately given, as the concluding business of the year is not yet arrived at:

DOMESTIC.

Deposits received from Postmasters	$13,914,832 09
Money orders issued	753,423
Fees on the same	4,873 40
Postmasters' drafts paid	6,782,934 60
Money orders paid	6,488,397 64
Deposited to the credit of Postmaster General on hand	610,000 00
Postmaster General's checks	400,884 38
Transfer to postage account	150,742 29
Revenue derived from money order business	120,142 09
Expense account	26,454 26
Stations' funds advanced	46,800 00
Money order business at stations	1,810,152 82

INTERNATIONAL.

British orders certified, 59,700	$1,040,441 90
British orders received, 18,929	345,999 75
German orders certified, 38,010	737,608 36
German orders received, 27,319	699,397,00
Swiss orders certified, 3,010	75,029 00
Swiss orders received, 1,285	33,330 07
Total	$34,022,254 98

THE CASHIER'S REPORT.

		March 31.	June 30.
Sale of stamps, &c.	1874..	$853,325 33	$641,040 52
	1875..	677,638 84	645,235 44
Unpaid postage	1874..	20,622	20,771 39
	1875..	22,084 07	20,771 39
Newspaper postage	1874..	12,511 85	10,820 43
	1875..	577 74	
Box rents	1874..	20,577 00	20,516 00
	1875..	19,804 00	19,732 15
Miscellaneous	1874..	8,590 66	8,859 19
	1875..	7,635 63	6,769 25
*Newspaper stamps		85,379 30	85,439 12

		Sept. 30.	Dec. 31.
Sale of stamps, &c.	1874..	$614,355 35	$653,943 43
	1875..	623,431 64	687,106 20
Unpaid postage	1874..	22,075 40	21,090 47
	1875..	15,800 53	15,791 04
Newspaper postage	1874..	11,129 27	10,910 11
Box rents	1874..	20,123 00	20,050 00
	1875..	19,700 00	19,699 50
Miscellaneous	1874..	7,418 25	6,520 25
	1875..	15,138 31	6,574 17
*Newspaper stamps		81,710 62	86,142 77

* Newspaper stamps which went into operation on Jan. 1, 1875.

MAILING AND DISTRIBUTION.

The Mailing and Distribution Department, under the supervision of General Superintendent Anthony Yeoman, is the bee-hive of the Post Office. Tons of letters and papers are dispatched and received every hour of the day and night. The Letter Department is in charge of Superintendent John Brady, who is charged with the duty of closing the mails. The State and principal City drops have proved a great advantage in the speedy making up of the mails and facilitating the workings of the department. Two hundred and fifty thousand letters daily pass through the office, and there are a less number of employes than there were three years ago.

Notwithstanding this, orders were recently received from Washington to reduce the expenses of the Post Office, which has necessitated a complete reorganization. There will necessarily be some removals, and a large number of employes will have their salaries reduced.

GOODS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

E. D. BASSFORD.

E. D. Bassford's, Cooper Institute, is the leading house-furnishing, hardware, wood-ware, china, glass, crockery, tin, iron, copper, and silver-ware store on this broad continent. All the wealthiest and most opulent class in New-York make their purchases here, to the exclusion of all other houses not doing the same business, and the stock of silver-ware displayed in Bassford's is something which Tiffany or the Gorham Company do not pretend to rival.

ALBERT SMITH.

Albert Smith is a butcher, and his store is No. 516 Sixth avenue, one door below Thirty-first street. He is among up-town or down-town butchers pre-eminent, and in his store the finest beef and mutton that ever walked may be found. He also deals in fish, game, and poultry, and his store, it should be remembered, is No. 516 Sixth avenue, one door below Thirty-first street.

F. A. O. SCHWARZ.

Schwarz, of No. 765 Broadway, has an exhibition of toys, dolls, games, and fancy articles, comprising the very latest novelties in that line, which he sells at very low prices. He buys in very large quantities in the best European markets, and, by paying cash down for all he orders, is enabled to sell his goods at the most reasonable figures.

EVERDELL.

Card engraving of all kinds, label and job printing of the most artistic character, is done by William Everdell's Sons, No. 104 Fulton street. The firm have been established since 1815, and maintain their old reputation for excellent work and moderate prices.

CRANDALL & CO.

Crandall & Co., No. 569 Third avenue, offer at reduced prices velocipedes, shoo-fly horses, doll wagons, spring and hobby horses, wagons, sleighs, carts, and all the other kinds of toys in which boys and girls most delight. They sell good goods at low figures, and supply the trade.

PRATT & CO.

James T. Pratt & Co., corner of Fulton and Cliff streets, supply tool-chests, filled with the best quality of tools ready for immediate use; also Fleetwood scroll saws, designs, and prepared wood, for the new Sorrento or bracket work.

C. T. HOOPER.

C. T. Hooper, No. 76 Nassau street, has an elegant display of art works for the holidays, including fine engravings, colored photographs, water colors, oil paintings, etchings, &c., which show excellent taste in the selection.

COST OF THE CUBAN WAR.

The Cuban Agency in this City has lately received from Havana a minute and accurate statement of the number of soldiers that Spain has sent to the Island of Cuba to reinforce its Army since the outbreak of the present rebellion on Oct. 10, 1868, to Dec. 1, 1875. Irrespective of officers, the aggregate amounts to 120,000 men. The cost of this vast Army has been $400,000,000, of which $180,000,000 are still to be paid by the Colonial Treasury to banking institutions in Cuba and other places.

TROUBLES OF A NEWLY-WEDDED PAIR

The Troy *Press* tells an amusing story of the vexatious disappointments which befell a recently-married pair. It reads thus: "George W. Pratt, of Pittsford, Monroe County, and his wife were made one just before Christmas, and like most people started on a wedding trip. Port Henry was their destination, and they reached Saratoga in safety. Here the groom found it necessary to 'see a man' just opposite the depot, and he left his blooming bride in the car. He 'would be back in a minute,' but while he was looking through the bottom of a tumbler the train started off and left him. The bride continued her journey alone, while the groom went dashing around Saratoga like a madman to get somebody to stop that train and bring back his bride. He finally burst into tears and fell prostrate on the street. Constable J. W. Gilbert volunteered to assist the man in his trouble. A dispatch was sent to Port Henry for the bride. She, sensible woman that she was, got on the down train to come back after her husband. The up train and the down met at Saratoga. When the former came into the station the bridegroom boarded it and was whirled away northward just as the down train drew up to the station having on board the wife. The situation is now reversed, and Mr. Gilbert felt embarrassed with a new bride on his hands instead of the groom. More dispatches to Port Henry followed. The wife took the next train north at the same time her husband took the next train south from where he was. Half way between Saratoga and Port Henry the trains pass, one standing on a siding, the other not stopping. At this particular point the husband and wife passed 'unbeknownst' to each other. When the groom reached Saratoga he found his wife had left for the north on the last train, and ditto wife when she reached Port Henry. Finally an order was sent to Port Henry peremptorily requiring the wife to stay where she was till the husband should come. By obeying this order the two got together at last and everybody was happy, including Officer Gilbert."

THE SUPPRESSION OF VICE.

THE GOOD A SOCIETY HAS ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE PAST YEAR—A DANGEROUS OCCUPATION FOR ITS AGENT.

On March 3, 1873, an act passed by Congress for the suppression of the exhibition or circulation of improper articles was approved by the President. On May 16 of the same year the Legislature of this State passed an act incorporating the Society for the Supression of Vice, and on the 14th of the following June another act was passed increasing and extending the powers of the society, which was composed of such gentlemen as Messrs. William E. Dodge, Jr., Howard Potter, Morris K. Jesup, Charles E. Whitehead, J. Pierpont Morgan, and Moses S. Beach, and many others of a similar standing. For some time previous to the passage of these laws, Mr. Anthony Comstock, the Secretary and special agent of the society, had been indefatigable in his efforts, under the laws then existing, to suppress the exhibition and circulation of improper publications, &c. From the time he began his work, in March, 1872, down to the present time he has been instrumental in seizing and destroying about twenty-one tons of matter of an improper character, has almost entirely suppressed the circulation of 160 different works of a meretricious kind, has seized and destroyed about 5,000 negatives for prohibited photographs and about 500 steel plates for the printing of pictures, and has succeeded in securing the punishment of nearly three hundred persons engaged in exhibiting, selling, or manufacturing the articles in question. The profits of these persons were great, and their hatred of Comstock for destroying their nefarious business and bringing them to punishment was intense, and it resulted in several wanton attacks upon his person. He was beaten in Brooklyn in the Fall of 1872. In July, 1873, as he was coming out of the United States Court building, on Chambers street, he was attacked by "Dr." George W. Selden, who spat in his face and struck him on the head, cutting him severely. In October, 1874, he was waylaid in the City Hall Park, just as he had left the United States Court building, by James Sullivan, an ex-pugilist, whom Comstock succeeded in throwing down and having arrested. On the 31st of the same month he was attacked near the jail in Newark, N. J., by Charles Conroy, a dealer in improper literature, a man who, under eighteen aliases, had flooded the country with pernicious publications, who cut him on the head and laid open his left cheek, making a frightful wound. For this act Conroy was sentenced to two years' imprisonment and fined $500. Besides these attacks, Comstock has been frequently threatened, and several designs to injure him have been discovered and frustrated. He is in constant danger, and has to be very circumspect in his movements, and admits no one to his office who does not give the proper signal. His efforts are not confined to New-York City, but are extended to all parts of the United States in which he finds that any of the business he is seeking to suppress is carried on. He has obtained ten convictions in Chicago, nine in Albany, eight in Boston, six in Philadelphia, five in Syracuse, N. Y., and one in each of the following places: West Troy, Lockport, Suspension Bridge, Canajoharie, Buffalo, and Mayfield, N. Y.; New-Haven, Waterbury, Bridgeport, and Middletown, Conn.; Pittsburg, Williamsport, and Hanover, Penn.; Springfield, Mass.; Hinsdale, N. H., and Newark, N. J. He began by causing the arrest of the notorious William Simpson, a Tammany politician of the Sixth Ward, whose place of business, at No. 57 Centre street, was greatly patronized by young persons. He obtained Simpson's arrest on five different occasions, caused his conviction four times, and he is now serving out a ten years' sentence, to which was added a fine of $5,000. In 1872 he caused 44 arrests; in 1873, 63; in 1874, 40; and in 1875, 47, and he has been successful in securing conviction in almost all his cases, and in driving all the principal offenders out of the business. Following are the most notable among the arrests in 1875, giving the date of arrest, the names of the offenders, their residence or place of business, the offense charged, and the disposition or present condition of each case:

June 10.—Mahlon Gandy, photographer, 49 East Forty-seventh street, New-York, manufacturing and having in his possession improper photographs. Sentenced to three years' imprisonment and fined $400. Ziegler was sexton of St. Boniface's Roman Catholic Church, corner of Second avenue and East Forty-seventh street, and lived in the parish school building adjoining. He made the pictures in his room, and produced 135 varieties. When arrested he was frescoing the parlors occupied by the priest of the church. He is an artist of superior ability, and in his possession were found autograph complimentary letters which had been sent him by the Emperor Wilhelm, of Prussia, and a magnificent photographic album presented to him by the same monarch.

June 22.—Charles Auel, one of the members of the firm of Herman Trost & Co., Nos. 48, 50, and 52 Murray street, New-York, and Lewis F. Meyer, a buyer of the firm, having in possession and selling improper figures. Held in $2,000 bail each for trial. Trost, the senior member of the firm, was not prosecuted, it appearing that he was ignorant of what the others were doing.

June, 23.—Chauncey Duvall, Jr., a youth of nineteen, who resided with his mother on a farm at The Corners, Ulster County, N. Y. He had a press, made by himself, which he kept in his bed-room, on which he printed obscene cards, which he mailed, under the name of "C. Deval." He advertised in a surreptitious way in the *School day Magazine*, the *Mirror*, and *Ohio Farmer*. He is under $1,500 bail to appear for trial.

July 26.—John A. Lant, editor of the *Toledo Sun*, a blasphemous, scurrilous, and improper publication which he issued in New-York. He was a partner of George Francis Train, who appeared in his behalf before Commissioner Osborn. He has just been sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of $500. After being sentenced, he sent word to Mr. Comstock that he had nothing against him, as he had simply done his duty, but that there were parties who would hang him very soon.

The society is to meet in about a month, and take suitable action for next year's campaign.

THE POISONED CAKE.

At the instance of Coroner Ogle, of Baltimore, Prof. William A. Aiken, of the Maryland University, made a chemical analysis of the cake found in the pocket of Henry Lauterbach after his death some days ago from poisoning by phosphorus from blue-headed matches. After several experiments and the "sand-bath" test, a large proportion of sulphur was found in the cake. It has been erroneously called "pound cake," but it was in reality a species of sponge cake, which was cut into slices when it was bought by or given to Mr. Lauterbach. Mr. Lauterbach had this cake for several weeks in the pocket of a coat which he seldom wore, and the damp weather prevailing at the time impregnated the cake with the contents of nearly a box and a half of sulphur matches which were in the pocket with the cake. This sulphur is a most deadly poison, and a grain is sufficient to cause death unless prompt remedial agents are applied. A box of these matches contains nearly five grains of the poisonous agent. When the room in which old Mr. Lauterbach died was swept, three mice, very much swollen, were found dead on the floor, and the pocket of the coat had been gnawed through and crumbs of the cake scattered on the carpet. In the analysis of the matter ejected from the stomach of the little girl, Elizabeth Eichman, a quantity of sulphur more than enough to kill was found. The family further state that, when she vomited in the narrow room in which she was lying, the matter ejected smoke, and gave, when stirred, a phosphorescent gleam, like that of a match rubbed in the dark against the palm.

A QUESTION ANSWERED.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Will you be kind enough to answer the following question: Can a British subject declare his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States while engaged as a sailor on board a British merchant ship running between New-York and foreign ports, and if so, can he become a citizen in three years after making said declaration? W. B.

You cannot. Section 2,174 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, regarding the naturalization of seamen, reads as follows: "Every seaman, being a foreigner, who declares his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States in any competent court, and shall have served three years on board a merchant vessel of the United States subsequent to the date of such declaration, may on his application to any competent court, and the production of his certificate of discharge and good conduct during that time, together with the certificate of his declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States, be admitted a citizen of the United States," &c.

SUICIDE IN THE ST. CHARLES HOTEL.

Shortly before midnight on Thursday, a respectably dressed man registered at the St. Charles Hotel, Broadway and Bleecker street, as P. S. O'Brien, and was assigned a room. At 1 o'clock yesterday the chambermaid, on opening the room door with a pass-key, discovered the man lying on the bed, dead. Coroner Eickhoff was notified, and on investigation it was found that the man had shot himself through the heart with a small-sized Smith & Wesson revolver. From papers found in his possession he was identified as P. S. O'Brien, married, of No. 110 West Thirty-fifth street, a house and fresco painter, who had been sick over a year. An inquest will be held to-day.

LAW REPORTS.

OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

THE CORPORATION NOT LIABLE FOR LABOR EMPLOYED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF CHARITIES.

The General Term of the Court of Common Pleas rendered a decision yesterday in the suit of Herbert Lawrence and William Foulke vs. The Mayor, &c. The case came up on appeal by the defendants from the judgment of the Special Term in favor of the plaintiffs for $24,963 37. The action was brought for work, labor, and materials furnished in repairing the school-ship Mercury, pursuant to a contract with the Commissioners of Charities and Correction. The defense was that the contract was not made after public advertisement for bids and proposals as required by the charters of 1870 and 1873; that only two of the Commissioners signed the requisition upon the Controller for the payment of the plaintiffs' claim, and that the work, labor, and services were only worth $16,000. The plaintiffs recovered the full amount claimed. Judge Joseph F. Daly, in delivering the opinion of the General Term, says that there seems to be evidence enough to support the claim that the repairs were necessary and worth the amount charged. I think, he continues, it may properly be urged that the repairs ordered by the Commissioners do not come within the provisions of the charters of 1870 or of 1873, not being work or supplies "furnished for the Corporation"—*i. e.*, for the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of New-York. The management of their department by the Commissioners of Charities and Correction was in that respect wholly independent of the Common Council. The department, in the care and management of the paupers and criminals confided to it, and in the care of boys whose custody for purposes of reformation devolves upon it by law, act not as agents of the Municipal corporation, but as public officers, agents, and servants of the public at large. (Maximilian vs. The Mayor. Court of Appeals, 1875.) * * * The defendants get no benefit nor emolument as a corporation from the work furnished by plaintiffs; it was ordered by the department as the agent, not of the corporation, but of the State, in the discharge of its duty to a class needing its control for the purpose of reformation. But the conclusions which establish that this was not work done for the corporation through its agents, nor for the benefit of its property, and that the provisions of the charter as to making the contract, advertising, &c., do not apply, dispose of the question of ultimate liability of defendant against the view taken by plaintiff in bringing this action. * * * But if not necessary at present to discuss the question, whether the plaintiffs' remedy is by action against the corporation or by proceedings against the corporate officer charged with the duty of payment, in case a sum remains in the City Treasury or was placed there for the purpose of paying for repairs to this vessel or its property under the charge of the Commissioners, the judgment must be reversed and a new trial ordered for the reason that it does not appear in the case that there is a fund in the City Treasury applicable to the payment of the amount claimed by plaintiffs.

MANDAMUS AGAINST THE CITY.

COMPELLING THE AUTHORITIES TO ENTER INTO A GRADING AND REGULATING CONTRACT.

The General Term of the Court of Common Pleas has just rendered a decision in the case of the People ex rel. James McKown, appellant, against Controller Green and George M. Van Nort. The matter in controversy came up on appeal from an order of the Special Term of the court refusing a peremptory writ of mandamus. It appears that McKown was the lowest bidder for the grading and regulating of Madison avenue between Ninety-ninth and One Hundred and Fifth streets, and that his proposal was accepted by Mr. Van Nort, then Commissioner of Public Works. Mr. Van Nort subsequently transmitted to the Controller the bid, with the accompanying agreement of the sureties for the faithful performance of the work. Mr. Green refused to signify his approval of the sureties, and returned the papers to the Commissioner of Public Works, declining to enter into a contract with McKown, on the ground that the adequacy of the sureties to the bond or agreement had not been approved. McKown thereupon applied to the Special Term of the Court of Common Pleas for a peremptory writ of mandamus against the respondents to compel Mr. Van Nort to return the papers to the Controller, to compel the latter to approve of the sufficiency and justification of the sureties, and then to give the documents back to the Commissioner of Public Works, and finally to compel Mr. Van Nort, as Commissioner of Public Works, to sign the contract for the work. This application being denied, McKown brought the present appeal. The question was as to whether the court should compel the Controller to approve of the sufficiency of the sureties. The Controller based his objection to doing this on the ground that there was a deficiency in the assessed value of the property on the line of the proposed work." Judge Loew, who writes the opinion of the General Term, holds this to be insufficient to sustain the position taken by the Controller. The act of 1840 provides that no house or lot shall in any case be assessed for any improvement authorized by law for more than one-half its value, as valued by the assessors of the ward. In the present case the estimated cost of the proposed work is largely in excess of the value of the property. But it does not necessarily follow, the court says, that the cost of the work may not be lawfully imposed on the property benefited thereby. The corporation is authorized, in the construction of public works and improvements, to pay for the same in installments during the progress of the work from the proceeds of assessment bonds. The laying of the assessment itself may, however, be deferred until after the whole work is completed. This being the case, there is no legal obstacle preventing the assessors from duly increasing the assessable valuation of the property after the completion of the work and before the making of the assessment. The presumption is that the property on the line of the improvement would be increased in value by at least the amount of expense incurred in the construction of the work, and in most cases the work would doubtless promote a much greater increase of value. Another point raised by the Controller was that McKown, though the lowest bidder, could not compel the City to award him the contract. The Corporation is compelled to award the contract to the lowest bidder if it awards it at all. The discretionary power in the matter, Judge Loew holds, is not vested in the Controller, his business being merely to determine the adequacy and sufficiency of the proposed sureties and their justification and acknowledgment. The order of the Special Term is reversed, with costs, and a peremptory writ of mandamus is awarded against the Controller and Commissioner of Public Works.

PROHIBITING SUNDAY AMUSEMENTS

THE DECISION OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS ON THE SUNDAY LAW—THE OPINIONS BY JUDGES LOEW AND J. F. DALY.

The decision in an interesting suit, involving the construction of the Sunday law of the State, was handed down in the General Term of the Court of Common Pleas yesterday. The action in question was brought by A. Neuendorff to restrain the City and Police Commissioners from interfering with the giving of Sunday entertainments in the Terrace Garden Theatre, of which the plaintiff was proprietor. The defendants made answer that they were acting in accordance with the law of 1860 prohibiting the giving of theatrical and other entertainments in the City. To this the plaintiff demurred, claiming that the law is unconstitutional because the subject matter of the act was not expressed in its title, which was "An act to preserve the public peace and order on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday." A preliminary injunction obtained by the plaintiff against the defendants was vacated by the Special Term of the Court of Common Pleas, and the decision then given is now affirmed by the General Term, Judges Loew and J. F. Daly giving opinions.

Judge Loew holds that it is competent for the Legislature to determine what pastimes or amusements have a tendency to interrupt public tranquillity or cause agitation or disturbance, and may, consequently, with a view to secure tranquillity, quiet, and freedom from disturbance, prohibit such amusements or pastimes, and thus preserve the public peace; and the Legislature, judging from the title of the act, evidently regarded the giving of theatrical and other performances in the City of New-York on Sunday as vicious, subversive of the public welfare, and tending to disturb the public peace. He adds: "We are unable to say, judicially, that such cannot be the case." To preserve order means to keep or preserve the established mode of proceeding. By the Revised Statutes all work or labor on Sunday, except of necessity or charity, are forbidden. The established mode of proceeding for a good and law-abiding citizen is to refrain from labor on Sunday. Actors and others undertaking Sunday performances violate this condition as established by the Revised Statutes, and the act forbidding this violation is an act to restrain them from violations of public order, and is therefore valid. Judge J. F. Daly, in his opinion, holds that while theatrical performances are as harmless and lawful as other occupations, the right of the Legislature to control all occupations, so as to forbid them on Sunday, has been always conceded in this State, and its power in the matter cannot be contested, whether it forbids ordinary business or hunting, or fishing, or regattas, or races, or, as in this case, theatrical performances.

COURTS OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

The Board of Aldermen and Commissioner of Public Works having provided no accommodation for the holding of the new branch of the Court of General Sessions, as provided for by the act of the Legislature, Part II. will be formally opened by Judge Gildersleeve on Monday morning and immediately adjourned, and the jurors summoned discharged to some future day, when a chamber shall have been provided. Part I. will then be opened for the transaction of business by Recorder Hackett, the prosecutions being conducted by Assistant District Attorney Horace Russell, who is now entirely restored to health.

NEW STEPS IN THE TWEED CASES.

THE ISSUES NARROWING DOWN BEFORE TRIAL—PAPERS AND VOUCHERS ASKED FOR.

A new move was made in the civil suits against Tweed yesterday by an application, on the part of Dudley Field, to Judge Lawrence, in Supreme Court, Chambers, for an order to show cause why the proceedings in the civil suit for $900,000 against Tweed should not be stayed. It appears that Mr. Peckham, acting on behalf of the Attorney General, has the right to call up this case immediately. The suit itself is on six warrants alleged to be fraudulent. An affidavit was submitted by Dudley Field yesterday, which set forth that the counsel for Tweed had applied to the Controller for leave to inspect certain vouchers and papers relating to the case. In this case, unlike the first or $6,000,000 suit, no loss of vouchers is claimed. Mr. Field was informed by the Controller that these documents were locked up in the safe under the control of Mr. Tainter, who is away for the present, and who is the only person aware of the combination of the safe. Counsel then applied to Mr. Peckham as the representative of the Attorney General to obtain from him a stipulation that the cause should not be brought on for trial until they had had opportunity to inspect the papers. Mr. Peckham declined, however, and thereupon Mr. Field made application to Judge Lawrence for the order to show cause which was to be made returnable on Monday. Judge Lawrence denied the application, however, stating that it ought to be brought up at the Circuit. Motions will be made by Mr. Field on Monday, in Supreme Court, Chambers, to have the struck juries in both of the civil suits set aside.

AN EXTINCT CORPORATION.

RECEIVER'S REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY—REFERRED TO A REFEREE BY JUDGE LAWRENCE.

Judge Lawrence, in Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday appointed ex-Judge James C. Spencer Referee to examine and pass upon the accounts of Jarvis Slade, Receiver of the International Isurance Company, Mr. Slade made his report to the court yesterday. He was appointed on Nov. 12, 1873, in the action brought by Reuben W. Ropes against the company, and also in a proceeding by the Attorney General of the State. After due advertising he proceeded to sell the premises of the company at No. 179 Broadway, and collected all the moneys due. He also proceeded, by order of the court, to cancel outstanding obligations. He has paid three dividends, amounting in all to eight per cent. of the total sums due creditors. A statement follows of the receipts and expenditures. The total receipts were $782,322 88, and the total disbursements $757,295 05, leaving a balance on deposit of $25,027 83. The unsettled assets and claims amount to about seventeen thousand dollars. By deducting the amount of return premiums upon which no payments or less than eighty per cent. payments have been made, the balance available for distribution is set down at $19,651 69. The money remaining in the Receiver's hands is to be applied to meet the claims still pending, to return premiums on canceled policies, to pay the expenses of the Receivership, and to distribute, if possible, a further dividend. The sums upon which this future dividend is to be paid are as follows:

Fire losses, (80 per cent. already paid)	$376,900 04
Other claims	4,000 00
Return premiums, Agency	3,908 97
Return premiums, City	978 14
Claims upon which 80 per cent. has been paid	5,789 76
Claims upon which 70 per cent. has been paid	264 53

THE TEXAS LAND COMPANY.

AN INJUNCTION ASKED TO PREVENT A LAND PURCHASE—DECISION RESERVED.

Application was made before Judge Sedgwick, in the Superior Court yesterday, for an injunction in behalf of the plaintiffs in the suit of Gardiner L. Spofford and Joseph L. Spofford vs. The Texas Land Company, its Directors, &c. Some of its stockholders, it appears, are interested in a company known as the Brazoria Improvement Company, owning certain lands in Texas, and it is charged that these persons, for the purpose of rendering salable their interest in the latter company, are endeavoring to have the former purchase its lands at the cost price, with interest from 1868, making in all an amount equal to about $200,000. This land, it is stated, is only worth about $10,000. The Brazoria company itself is composed of John S. Kennedy, Thomas W. Pearsall, William S. Barnes, William W. Phelps, and others. It is alleged not to be legally incorporated. It is charged that the gentleman above named, with Moses Taylor, William E. Dodge, W. G. Hutchinson, William M. Rice, J. S. Wetmore, and Joshua Grow, are endeavoring to reorganize the Board of Directors of the Texas Land Company by ousting all not interested in the Brazoria Company, in order to have the purchase of the latter's lands effected. The plaintiffs claim that such purchase would reduce their stock in value fully fifty per cent. An injunction was therefore asked to restrain the Texas Company from making the purchase in question. At the hearing of the case, yesterday, Mr. Winzinge who appeared for the plaintiffs, urged that the Directors could make no purchase of property for the company in which they were personally interested, and their action was consequently ultra virus and void.

Mr. Wetmore representing the defendants, read the affidavits of Messrs. Phelps & Dodge, which claimed that the land to be purchased was exceedingly valuable, and that only a minority of the Board were interested in the Brazoria Company. Judge Sedgwick took the papers reserving his decision.

COURT NOTES.

Surrogate Hutchings yesterday rendered a decision in the John Q. Burke contested will case, admitting the instrument.

Albert J. Corriveau, cigar dealer, of No. 11 Broad street, was brought before United States Commissioner Shields yesterday, charged with packing a quantity of cigars in boxes that had been used before. He was held in $1,000.

At the session of the General Term of the Court of Common Pleas

facts to one of the officials, and if they did so report to the office, there is not sufficient clerical force in the department to attend to such duties. The small force there at present under Dr. Harris and his efficient deputy, Dr. Nagle, are overworked. There is no excuse, however, for the inattention of physicians to this duty, and Dr. Nagle says that many of them pay no attention to the law. Let a few of these gentlemen be requested to come into court and account for their delinquency, and if such a course be occasionally pursued, it will no doubt have the effect of enabling medical gentlemen to understand and perform the duties which the law imposes upon them. The falling off in the number of marriages is attributed more to the "hard times" than to any other cause.

THE SANITARY BUREAU.

The work performed by the officers of the Sanitary Bureau during the year has been very satisfactory, and on the whole the sanitary condition of the City has been as good as could be expected considering its defective sewerage and overcrowded tenement-houses. The street-cleaning, under the direction of the Police, has been fairly attended to, and no complaints of any serious character have been made against this bureau. The number of nuisances reported to the Board of Health during the year were over ten thousand, and orders were served for their abatement, exclusive of special orders issued by the Health Department, numbering over four thousand. The number of dead cattle, sheep, lambs, and hogs condemned was 3,260, nearly the same as last year. The quantity of unsound meat and poultry seized and condemned amounted to 27,000 pounds, of which over one-third was poultry, and the quantity of unsound fish removed from the public market reached nearly one hundred and twenty thousand pounds, falling off about one hundred thousand pounds as compared with the previous twelve months. The street-cleaning Bureau removed over 806,000 loads of ashes, garbage, and rubbish, besides 57,271 loads of mud and snow. The sanitary officers made 96,000 inspections; visited 4,300 places where contagious diseases prevailed, and disinfected 2,300 of these cases in hospital. They also fumigated and disinfected 3,700 premises and removed 140 bodies to the Morgue. The number of vaccinations performed were 111,828, of which 16,169 were primary.

THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR—NEW BUILDINGS IN EACH OF THE WARDS.

The building record for the past year is, on the whole, a very favorable one, showing a slight increase in the number of new buildings proposed for erection and in the estimated cost of the same. In the number of buildings and alterations actually commenced and completed, there is a trifling falling off as compared with the year 1874, but as the records of the department give only the estimated cost of proposed new buildings and alterations, there is no way of contrasting the actual cost of the work executed in each of the past two years. In 1874 the number of new buildings for which plans were deposited was 1,388, the estimated cost being $16,738,077. Added that the number of new buildings proposed was 1,401, and the estimated cost $18,340,-670. The number of alterations proposed in 1875 was 1,431, at an estimated cost of $3,130,788. In 1874 the number was 1,459, and the estimated cost $3,532,147. There were 1,464 new buildings commenced last year, against 1,468 the year previous, and the number completed was 1,325, against 1,295 in 1874. The alterations commenced were 979, showing a falling off of 252 compared with 1874, and the alterations completed were 1,197, against 1,267 the previous year. Contrasting the statistics of 1875 with those of 1874, they show that, although the trade was in a depressed condition since 1873, the building classes received as much employment as they did in 1874, and that making a fair estimate for the work actually performed, there must have been at least over twenty million dollars expended in labor and building materials during the year. The records show that sixty per cent. of the new buildings have been erected in the up-town wards—the Twelfth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-second—thirty per cent. being in the remaining nineteen Wards. The following table gives the number of buildings completed in each ward for the first three-quarters of the past year:

Wards.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Total for Nine Mos.
First	3	1		4
Second			1	1
Third	2	1	2	5
Fourth		2	2	4
Fifth	5	3	5	13
Sixth	2	3	6	11
Seventh	1	3	7	11
Eighth	2	5	10	17
Ninth	3	3	4	11
Tenth	2	3	13	18
Eleventh	3	8	8	29
Twelfth	34	63	42	139
Thirteenth	2	9	45	56
Fourteenth	1	2	9	12
Fifteenth	4	2	1	7
Sixteenth	3	3	9	20
Seventeenth	3	2	23	28
Eighteenth	4	10	2	16
Nineteenth	83	91	117	291
Twentieth	12	16	32	60
Twenty-first	3	13	14	30
Twenty-second	40	36	47	123
Twenty-third	11	37	18	66
Twenty-fourth	1	1	3	5
Total	188	305	376	868

Among the new buildings in the Twelfth and Nineteenth Wards are a large number of costly French apartment houses and expensive first-class buildings. The want of rapid transit has to a great extent deterred capitalists from making improvements in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards. As long as communication between Westchester County and the lower portion of the City is confined chiefly to the horse-cars there will not be much disposition to lay out money in buildings, and if capitalists were foolish enough to do so they would soon find that tenants could not be obtained for them at any rent. Among the expensive structures commenced during the year is a three-story brick building at the north-west corner of Fifth avenue and Eighteenth street, to be occupied as a music hall by Chickering & Sons. The estimated cost is $150,000. Among the costly alterations may be noted those made in the Astor House, at a cost of $125,000.

The work has progressed to a considerable extent on the Third Judicial District Court-house, (Jefferson Market.) Early in the year the Commissioners accepted contracts for the mason-work at $116,883; cut stone, $77,000; iron-work, $57,000; heating apparatus, $10,725, and steam elevator, $4,000. The building is in the Gothic style of architecture, and the materials are brick with stone trimmings. The whole structure is to be fire proof, heated by steam, and thoroughly ventilated.

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The strength of the Police force, including those above the rank of Sergeant, is slightly over two thousand five hundred. The applications for appointments to the force average about fifty each month, of which one-fifth fail to pass the surgical examination, and are rejected. The dismissals average three per week, and the number fined for various breaches of discipline average six daily. The number of days lost by sickness during the past year was 28,800, of which 18,200 were paid for. The number of arrests made by the Police during the year was 91,000, of which number 65,700 were males and 25,400 females. Of those arrested 37,917 were natives of the United States, 37,124 were born in Ireland, 6,021 in Germany, 3,306 in England, 1,031 in Scotland, 457 in the British Provinces, and 846 in France. The number arrested for burglary was 648; grand larceny, 1,445; highway robbery, 223; receiving stolen goods, 171; arson, 25, and homicides, 75. Of the total number arrested by the Police, 7,500, or forty-four per cent., or about 40,000, were charged with intoxication, and 33,000 were accused of disorderly conduct. The number of lodgings furnished at the various station-houses was 212,000, of which 141,000 were for males and 71,000 for females. No fewer than 5,900 lost children were recovered by the Police and restored to their friends, and 4,925 stray cattle and dwellings were found open and secured. Lost property worth over $1,000,000 was restored to its owners.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

This department, in addition to the "public works," has charge of the lamps and gas, and has also the care of the public buildings. Its management of the "public works" has not been at all an economical one, the opening of streets and sewers being performed by what is known as "days' work." If an honest day's work were really given, there would, perhaps, be little reason to complain, but it is a well-known fact that the workmen do not give one-quarter of a fair day's work, and that this injustice to the tax-payers is connived at by those who have supervision of the work. There was no work of special importance commenced during the year. A recent return issued by the department gives the following as the numbers employed on the public works:

	Mechanics.	Laborers.	Carts and Teams.
Alterations of Aqueduct	49	356	29
Maintenance of Aqueduct and reservoirs	11	47	5
Finishing work around Storage Reservoir		8	2
In Pipe-yard	3	11	
Construction of roads and avenues	88	1,330	164
Laying and repairing Croton pipes	63	215	64
Repairing pavements	4	13	5
Total	217	1,980	269

DEPARTMENT OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

During the months of January, February, and March of each year the officials of the Out-door Relief Bureau of the Department of Charities and Correction are kept busily employed, and for the remaining nine months they have comparative leisure. In the first quarter of last year 16,806 families, comprising 61,079 persons, were relieved at an expense of $47,429 in money, besides the cost of 3,996 tons of coal, which was distributed among the majority of the applicants. Sixteen per cent. of the families were natives of the United States, fifty-seven per cent. were Irish and twenty-one per cent. Germans. In the second quarter, ending June 30, 154 families, comprising 565 persons, were relieved at a cost of $365 50; in the third quarter, ending Sept. 30, 133 families, or 462 persons, were assisted at an expense of $366. During the last quarter, ending yesterday, the number of families assisted was 105, at an outlay of $354. The Commissioners have over 9,000 persons in their charge in the various prisons and public institutions; the admissions aggregate over 50,000 annually, the discharges over 45,000, the deaths 2,700, and over 300 escape from the institutions every year. The inadequacy of the City Prison is growing more and more apparent. There is not proper accommodation for one-half of the prisoners, and the result is that in most cases two persons are placed together in cells originally intended for the reception of not more than one prisoner to each. A training school for female nurses was opened in the Charity Hospital on the 3d of August last, with nineteen pupils, which was soon increased to the maximum number of forty. The enterprise has proved quite successful, and the presence in the wards of these volunteers has had a perceptible effect of inspiriting the patients and improving their condition. The Park Reception Hospital was taken down a few weeks ago in consequence of its being in an unsafe condition.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

THE LOSS LARGELY EXCEEDS THAT OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR—THE CAUSES AND ORIGIN OF THE FIRES.

The Fire Department is the only public office in the City which refused to give information to THE TIMES reporter assigned to collect and tabulate the statistics for the year. A person named Jessup, who is in temporary charge of the office of Secretary, positively declined yesterday to give the slightest information concerning the number of fires which had occurred during the year, or the losses which were sustained on account thereof. Fire Marshal Sheldon had on Wednesday promised to have the necessary information ready for the reporter yesterday, but in the meantime he had received orders to withhold the statistics and to refer the reporter to the Secretary. Mr. Sheldon, with his usual courtesy, had all the returns prepared, but when the reporter called he referred him to Mr. Jessup, and that individual refused, as already stated, to give any information or to permit Mr. Sheldon to do so. None of the Commissioners being present the reporter had to adopt other means of acquiring the information sought for, but it would be well in future for the Commissioners to instruct their Secretary not to adhere too much to red tapeism when information for the public is demanded; or perhaps it would be better to place some person in charge of the Secretary's office who would have capacity for understanding what is due to the public, and discrimination enough to know when and to whom information should be extended—qualities which the present officer does not possess. The fires during last year were slightly under those for the year 1874, but the loss is $1,000,000 more. In 1874 the number of fires was 1,411, involving a loss of $1,328,844; last year the number was 1,373, and the loss amounted to $2,340,600. This increased loss was caused principally by one or two large fires which took place during the year. The largest of these occurred on the 23d November, in the brewery of David Jones & Co., in Sixth street, near Avenue C, involving a loss of $450,000. The next largest occurred on the 11th April, in the five-story building Nos. 57 and 59 Worth street, in the "Dry Goods District," the loss amounting to $200,000. Another large fire took place on the 12th January, in the crockery warehouse of James Shaw & Co., No. 78 Chatham street, by which property valued at $200,000 was lost. On the 25th April the Union League Club House was burned, by which a loss of $85,000 was sustained, and the fire which occurred at No. 39 Cliff street, on March 25, caused a loss of $50,000. More than one-fourth of the whole number of fires was caused by carelessness, and 169 by foul chimneys. The following gives the cause and origin of the fires for the year:

Accidental, 19; bursting of water-back of range, 5; carelessness with matches, cigars, &c., 359; children playing with matches, 70; clothing taking fire from stoves, 3; candles and lamps setting fire to Christmas trees, 5; defective flues, ranges, and steam-pipes, 57; escaped gas from meters and pipes igniting, 33; foul chimneys, 169; friction of machinery, 9; fireworks, 24; gunning, 3; hot ashes, 5; ignition of matches falling from pockets, 14; gaslight setting fire to wood-work, 6; hot coals, ashes, &c., 19; insecure stove-pipes, 2; incendiary, 40; explosion and upsetting of kerosene lamps, 75; malicious mischief, 28; not ascertained, 199; over-heated ovens, stove-pipes, boilers, &c., 97; rats and mice gnawing matches, 5; sparks from stoves, chimneys, &c., 62; stoves upsetting, 3; spontaneous combustion, 41; shaking of lime, 6; vapor of kerosene-oil igniting, 2; window curtains taking fire from gas-light, 45; miscellaneous, 75; carelessness of employes with fire, 14.

The following table gives the number of fires and the amount of loss in each year since 1866:

Years.	No. of Fires.	Loss.	No. of Fires.	Loss.
1866	795	$6,428,000	1871	1,208	$2,127,256
1867	873	5,711,000	1872	1,681	4,409,000
1868	740	4,342,000	1873	1,398	2,648,795
1869	800	2,638,393	1874	1,411	1,328,844
1870	1,000	2,150,219	1875	1,373	2,340,600

The following shows the number of fires and the loss sustained for each quarter of the year 1875:

	No. of Fires.	Loss.
First quarter	415	$487,061
second quarter	360	831,319
Third quarter	316	179,048
Fourth quarter	282	843,172
Total	1,373	$2,340,600

The uninsured loss for the year amounted to upward of $375,000.

A few of the accidents and deaths resulting from fires last year are herewith appended:

Jan. 17.—Julia Robins, a colored woman, was burned to death at No. 108 West Thirty-first street.

Feb. 3.—While proceeding to answer a false alarm, Fireman William Fogarty was thrown from his engine-seat and had his left arm broken.

Feb. 9.—The dead bodies of two children, Augusta and Minnie Levy, were found after the fire had been extinguished at No. 763 Tenth avenue.

Feb. 7.—While Hook and Ladder Company No. 8 were answering an alarm at No. 93 Maiden lane, James Millmore Duer was thrown from the truck and severely injured.

Feb. 15.—The dead bodies of Hannah Wells, aged twenty-nine, and her daughter Ellen, aged two years, were found on the fourth floor of the building No. 627 East Ninth street after the fire had been extinguished.

April 6.—At the fire which occurred at the Frankfort House, No. 45 Frankfort was found suffocated, and another in a dying condition.

May 2.—While overhauling the ruins of the fire at No. 877 Seventh avenue, the dead bodies of two men, Henry Hill and John Daggett, were found. They were workmen in the stables.

May 6.—The dead body of a woman named Kate Hunt was found in a small room at No. 47 Oliver street, where the fire had been extinguished.

Dec. 4.—A woman named Graumell was burned to death at No. 353 West Forty-first street.

Dec. 8.—Assistant Foreman Olmstead, of Engine Company No. 21, and Foreman Wiedmann and O'Connor, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 2, were injured by falling through the roof to the second story.

THE BOARD OF EXCISE.

The following is a statement of the business transacted by the Excise Department during the eight months ending yesterday: Number of applications received, 6,873; cash received with same, $385,708 75; number of licenses granted, 6,745; number of applications refused, 56; number of applications withdrawn, 23; number of applications transferred from the accounts of 1874 to 1875, 98; number of applications laid over, 50; amount of cash deposited with the City Chamberlain, on account of 1875 and 1876, $378,500.

THE WORK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

The accompanying table, prepared by Thomas Boese, the Clerk of the Superior Court, shows the work done in that court during the year:

Number of causes on jury trial calendar Dec. 31, 1875, undisposed of, 1,610; number of causes disposed of at Trial Term during the year 1875, 594; number of causes tried by a Judge without a jury at Special Term during the year 1875, 284; number of causes tried and contested at Special Term and Chambers during the year 1875, 6,397; causes disposed of at General Term during the year 1875, 387. There were fifty-seven appeals taken from this court to the Court of Appeals, in forty-nine of which the decisions of the court below were sustained. There have been several suits of great public importance tried in this court during the year. Conspicuous among them were the suits of the National Trust Company against Ralston and others, and the New-York Guaranty and Indemnity Company against Ralston and others, alleged bond forgers. In these suits verdict was rendered for the plaintiff.

BUSINESS IN THE UNITED STATES COURTS.

Following is a report of the business of the United States Circuit Court, Southern District of New-York, for the past year: During the year 1875 there have been commenced on the common law side of the court, exclusive of those in which the United States is a party, 92 suits, of which 48 were tried and disposed of. On the equity side 315 suits were commenced, 67 heard on motions for injunctions, 56 granted, and 11 denied, and 78 were discontinued and disposed of during the year. In Admiralty, on appeal from the District Court, 12 cases were brought, and 3 heard and disposed of, and 25 appeals were taken to the Supreme Court of the United States. On the criminal side 121 indictments were found, and 207 tried and disposed of. During the year the sessions of the court were held by Justice Ward Hunt, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Judge Woodruff, the late Circuit Judge; Judge Johnson, present Circuit Judge, and Judges Blatchford, Benedict, Shipman, and Wallace.

SCHEDULES FILED IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

Following is a table for the past five years of the schedules filed in the Court of Common Pleas, attached to the general assignments for the benefit of creditors, made under the act of 1860 and the subsequent amendments thereto:

Year.	No. of Schedules.	Liabilities represented.
1871	33	$1,149,000
1872	29	694,000
1873	26	3,075,000
1874	50	2,566,000
1875	119	10,133,500

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

SALES AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE—DEC. 31.

SALES BEFORE THE CALL—10 A. M.

2200 West. Union..... 74
800 do..... 74⅛
700 do..... 74⅜
1100 do..... 74⅛
100 do..... c. 74⅜
800 do..... 74⅝
200 Pacific Mail..... c. 39⅜
100 do..... 39⅜
100 do..... c. 39¼
100 do..... 39⅜
500 do..... s3. 39½
500 do..... 39⅜
100 do..... 39½
500 do..... s3. 39
500 do..... 39⅜
300 do..... 39⅝
600 do..... 39⅞
200 do..... 39⅝
100 do..... 39⅞
100 do..... 39⅝
40 Adams Express..... 102¼
100 Man. Pf. Tr. p. c. 93½
100 Quicks. Pf. p. c. 23½
900 W. Un. Tel..... b. c. 74
200 do..... s3. 73⅞
600 do..... 74
200 do..... 73⅞
100 do..... 74
40 Adams Express..... 102¼
80 Bank St. of N. Y..... 105

The New York Times.

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 1876.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—JULIUS CÆSAR.—Mr. Lawrence Barrett, Mr. F. C. Bangs, Mr. E. L. Davenport. Matinée.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—ROSE MICHEL.—Mr. C. R. Thorne, Jr., Mr. John Parselle, Miss Rose Eytinge. Matinée.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—PIQUE.—Mr. Charles Fisher, Mr. D. H. Harkins, Miss Fanny Davenport. Matinée.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—THE ROMANCE OF A POOR YOUNG MAN.—Mr. H. J. Montague, John Gilbert, Miss Ada Dyas.

PARK THEATRE.—CRUCIBLE.—Mr. A. O. Hall, Mr. C. T. Parsloe, Mr. J. W. Brutone, Miss Constance Leigh.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—(Three performances)—GIL, THE MILLER; THE OCTOROON, &c.

LYCEUM THEATRE. GAVAUT, MINARD ET CIE. (French Drama.)

EAGLE THEATRE.—HARLEQUIN; DEMON STATUE, (Pantomime and Transformation.) Matinée.

COLOSSEUM.—GRAND SPECTACLE DIORAMA of the Prussian Siege of Paris. Afternoon and evening.

BROOKLYN THEATRE.—HENRY V.—Mr. George Rignold, Mr. C. B. Bishop, Miss M. Brabrook.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—VAUDEVILLE AND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT. Matinée at 2.

TONY PASTOR'S NEW THEATRE.—NOVELTY AND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT—Tony Pastor. Matinée.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—BURLESQUE, SONGS, and NEGRO COMICALITIES. Matinée.

PARISIAN VARIETIES.—VAUDEVILLE AND NOVELTY ENTERTAINMENT. Matinée.

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The Sunday Edition, per annum	2
The SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, per annum	3
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THE UP-TOWN OFFICE OF THE TIMES.

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ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED UNTIL 9 P. M.

THE TIMES BY THE FAST MAIL TRAINS.

The Fast Mail trains to the West now enable subscribers to obtain THE TIMES *within a radius of 500 miles from New-York City on the day of its publication, and as far West as Chicago within twenty-four hours. By this arrangement* THE SUNDAY TIMES *has largely increased the area of its circulation, and can be purchased before noon in towns as remote from New-York as Syracuse and Harrisburg. The demand for this journal is already very large, and in order to insure attention notice should be given at once of any increase in the orders from newsdealers.*

A letter from our Washington correspondent, which we publish this morning, will probably serve to dispel the rumors of "war with Spain" which are constantly being set afloat in this City on the basis of scraps of information gathered at street corners. Our Government is not seeking a war, and there is nothing in the present state of the relations between Spain and the United States to encourage the impression that war is even possible. The communications which have been made to foreign powers in reference to Cuba are purely pacific in their aim; and the best proof that could be offered that Gen. GRANT is not pursuing a filibustering policy is that he is exhausting every means of settling pending questions in an amicable manner. There is no war-cloud over the country on this, the opening day of the "Centennial Year;" and we may confidently hope that the people will be disturbed by no greater commotions in 1876 than those which are incidental to a Presidential election.

The Centennial Year was "ushered in" last night with a great deal of noise and excitement in various parts of the country. In some of the interior cities the celebration was quite extensive. Midnight processions and parades, illuminations, fire-works, and salutes of one hundred guns, were freely indulged in. In Washington some attention was paid to the event, but there was no great preparation for its observance. New-Yorkers were treated to a promiscuous serenade of fish-horns, the bells were rung, and one of the great railroad lines on the other side of the North River reminded us of the birth of the new year by a tremendous blast—half an hour long—from all its available steam-whistles. As a fillip to our enjoyment, we are informed that the inhabitants of Quebec celebrated the repulse of the Americans from that city a hundred years ago last night, and that the house where the gallant MONTGOMERY was taken to die was "properly decorated and illuminated."

The successor, for the time being, of Auditor THAYER, enters on the duties of his office to-day, and the Senate, which meets on Monday, will, at an early date, investigate the charges on which Mr. THAYER has been suspended. Whether it will be found that the conduct of this officer has rendered him legally subject to removal or not, we are not prepared to say. On that subject the lawyers who have participated in the investigation so far differ. But that he has indulged in practices in the last degree improper and reprehensible, is clear from his own testimony. Buying claims which are the subject of audit by himself is no part of the business of an Auditor. It subjects him to temptation, impairs his impartiality, and exposes him to suspicion and his office to discredit. The amount of money made by the Auditor may have been never so small, but that is no excuse for his conduct. It is a matter of regret that Mr. THAYER'S reputation, hitherto good, has been sullied; but he has only himself to blame.

It has occurred to the detectives who are working up the case of THOMASSEN, that he may have been instrumental in the destruction of the ill-fated steamer *City of Boston*, and the matter is now being carefully investigated. He is known to have undertaken to get heavy insurance on a box said to contain gold, and to be shipped on board the *Celtic*, but which he would not allow to be inspected. There are a good many incidents in his career, which show him to have been a shifty adventurer, given to false representations and uncertain ways of living, but nothing has yet been unearthed to identify his accomplices, though these he must have had in any such work as he professed to have been engaged in.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK FOR 1876.

It is by no means a sordid view of the new year which attaches prime importance to the business outlook. Upon that depends a great deal of the happiness which we are in the habit of wishing each other on such occasions; and upon that, also, however much we may dislike to face the fact, depends, directly and indirectly, much of our morality. No one can estimate the amount of mental suffering entailed by the commercial distress of the past year, nor calculate the consequences for good and evil which have been visited upon thousands of families in all parts of the land. Some men have been tempted by their business trials, and have fallen; some have been strengthened for the exercise of self-denial and a generous regard for the rights and interests of others. Some reputations that had been built on apparently sound foundations of rectitude and honor have been broken down, and every such occurrence has been a serious blow to public morals, for men, especially young men, learn only too easily by these examples, distrust of public opinion and indifference to it. Other cases, happily numerous but necessarily not conspicuous, there have been, in which great sacrifices have been faithfully submitted to and great burdens quietly assumed, in obedience to the strictest interpretation of business obligations. It could easily be shown, if it were required, that such experiences as we have recently passed through are of the deepest consequence with reference to every department of our complex modern life, and that no question could engage our attention of greater importance than the probable course of commercial affairs during the next twelvemonth.

It must be said, however, that all prediction on this subject is necessarily of an uncertain value. There are many elements in the problem which cannot be accurately calculated, and others may readily enter which no one can now foresee. We cannot tell what the present Congress may do, or threaten, in regard to the currency or the banks. We cannot be sure to what extent the liquidation which has been going on for two years has affected our moneyed institutions, and it is not impossible, though extremely improbable, that they may yet suffer in a way to cause a renewed disturbance of public confidence. One cannot foretell confidently the course of political parties, or the influence of their action upon business during the Presidential canvass. The horizon of European politics is a cloudy one, and from any one of three or four quarters trouble may break suddenly and spread widely before the year is out. These are considerations, apart from more obvious ones, which make it necessary to speak with caution of the immediate future.

But, making all proper qualifications, it seems to us probable that the next year will bring about a generally satisfactory result. That there will be a good many suspensions—more in number, perhaps, than have occurred during 1875—we have only too much reason to think. There was in the Fall and Winter of 1873-4 an immense amount of "tiding over." There was a sort of general agreement that as nearly everybody was in the same boat, and forced measures of liquidation would lead to nothing, it was better to let debtors, as a class, "work along," and see what they could do. Those who have been able to do anything have since that time straightened out their affairs; but those who were hopelessly exhausted have made that fact evident, and are now surrendering to their creditors.

This process is, however, a healthy one, and unless some unexpected event should precipitate alarm, which is not likely, the sooner it is completed the better the country will be prepared to face the future. Meanwhile, the strong establishments—not necessarily the large ones, but those whose available assets are sufficient for their business, whether small or great, and these are in the great majority—are steadily and cautiously pushing their enterprises in every direction. An energetic effort is everywhere being made to conform business to present exigencies. Overstocks have been greatly reduced; extravagant expenses in living, as well as in business, have been brought within bounds; wages have been almost universally lowered; prices of raw material have shrunk, and the cost of production in all its elements has been reduced, to enable business to be done with as many chances as possible in its favor. Such a policy applied, as it has been, vigorously and persistently cannot be without effect.

It is to be remembered also that, although the flurry of speculation which took place last Fall in the breadstuff market was premature, we have a large surplus of cereals for export, and are likely to have a fair market for them. We have too a rich cotton crop, for which we can count on a reasonably profitable sale, and though the terms of our intercourse with the foreign nations which must buy our surplus are not as favorable as they should be, they are sufficiently so to allow successful trade.

We shall also have, during the year, the great Centennial Exhibition, the effects of which, both direct and incidental, upon our mercantile interests will be considerable. The most important of these will be the added knowledge which will be mutually gained by our visitors and ourselves, and by various sections of our own people, as to the industries and productions of this and other countries. Trade is but an indirect barter of the productions of each to satisfy the wants of each, and no such opportunity has ever before been afforded in the United States to extend among all classes of consumers the information which will stimulate trade. We may trust the native acuteness and energy of our countrymen, spurred by the weary experience of the last few years, to make the most of this opportunity.

But, however our people may strive to win better fortune from the coming year, it cannot be forgotten that our system of finance, which allows the Government, uninstructed and uninterested, to interfere by its legal-tender notes with every business enterprise, and to maintain an incalculable risk for every honest business man, is a terrible obstacle in the way. Let us hope that another year will see this obstacle, since it cannot be wholly removed, at least put in the way of certain removal by the unqualified expression of the popular voice in the national elections.

DOES CRIME INCREASE?

It is a common impression among our rural friends, and possibly often among ourselves, that New-York, in all matters of public morals and in the condition of the criminal classes, is going on from bad to worse. An intelligent community is always given to self-criticism; and there is no doubt that in a city like New-York, with an active press, and a considerable number of persons whose main occupation is in revealing and trying to improve abuses, we do show forth to the world all the evil there is in us.

The interesting report which we published a few days since from the Police Justices seems a terrible record of crimes and misdemeanors; and read without explanation, would leave a gloomy impression of the condition of New-York, as respects its criminal classes. Yet, examined in the light of the criminal statistics of the past, it is extremely hopeful. Before, however, gathering its useful lessons, we must, in the name of all students of criminal science, thank the Justices for this clear and comprehensive report. It is the more valuable, as both the Commissioners of Charities and Correction and the Board of Police have now for some years failed to render any statistical report of the crimes of the City, with their arrests and punishments, a want greatly felt by all who would study scientifically this great subject.

It should be premised, also, that students of the condition of the criminal classes seldom expect any reduction in the average of crime to the population. QUETELET, the great authority on this subject, shows that in France the proportion of crime, both to numbers, sex, and class, holds, in general, with great tenacity, and even as related to the month of the year and the hour of the day. No doubt this is true of an old and fixed community, where the redemptive and preservative agencies remain in a pretty constant proportion to the amount of the degrading and corrupting influences. It is not true here. New-York has, indeed, been a peculiar centre of criminal and destitute classes, owing to its being the port of entry for multitudes of poor emigrants. But it has also enjoyed, during nearly a quarter of a century, the effects of a large, combined movement of the intelligent classes, to prevent the growth and increase of criminal youth—a movement at once of charity and education, in the direction both of industrial schools, of children's lodging-houses, and of a wide scheme of local emigration of destitute and homeless children.

To discover the full effects of these wise and comprehensive measures, the recent Police Report must be studied thoroughly. We have only space for a few figures.

Take such a crime as "petty larceny." We should reasonably expect that this would increase with population, as it does in France, or say 12½ per cent. in ten years, (the ratio of increase in New-York.) We find that the commitments during 1875 for this offense, were of males, 2,444, and of females, 452. The number in the latter of young girls is not given, but is stated to be very low. In 1859 the number of males committed for this offense, was 2,626; or an absolute reduction in 1875, of 182, while the "natural" increase would have been some 500. In 1863 the commitments of females on this count were 1,133, and in 1864, 1,131; or an absolute reduction of 679 and 631. "Vagrancy" includes a large number of the offenses of young girls and women, and indicates the beginnings of a criminal life. The reduction in the commitments for this offense shown by this report, especially among females, is one of the most encouraging facts ever offered to the student of criminal statistics. Last year, 1,568 females were sentenced for this misdemeanor; in 1860, 5,880 females; or an absolute reduction of *over four thousand three hundred*, a reduction whose full import in the diminution of crime and suffering hardly any language could adequately measure. Among males the commitments were 1,583 in 1875; in 1860, 2,708, or an absolute reduction of over eleven hundred, while population has increased some eighteen per cent. in the interval.

The classification of ages only runs back a few years in the public Police and prison reports of the City. But here, also, the figures are encouraging. In 1875, 1,536 males under fourteen were committed; in 1864, 1,965. In 1875, 336 females; in 1863-4, 403. Of these, during last year, no doubt the larger proportion were committed by parents to asylums, Catholic and Protestant, so that the numbers do not indicate necessarily offenses against law. The total arrests of girls under twenty years last year were 1,754; in 1863, 3,132.

Enough has been given in these brief statistics to show that New-York philanthropy has fairly checked the growth of juvenile crime during the past ten or fifteen years, for the offenses we have selected are those of which children are most frequently guilty. If public efforts do but heartily unite with private, and the Compulsory law be executed strictly, the Police report of 1876 will show a still greater improvement.

SIAM AND THE CENTENNIAL.

It is a great comfort to know that Siam is to be represented at the Centennial Exhibition. We can endure the absence of certain effete European monarchies, which have coldly declined to take part in celebrating the birthday of the Republic, but we should have felt seriously hurt if Siam had followed their example. Between our people and the Siamese there are many close and tender ties. The son of the Second King of Siam is named GEORGE WASHINGTON, and he leads the royal brass band with as much vigor as though his baton were a hatchet, and the waltzes of STRAUSS and LANNER were so many cherry-trees which must be cut down in the shortest possible time. Then, too, the first pair of twins ever exported from Siam lived and died, and were cut up and preserved in alcohol, in America. Friendship like this cannot be ruptured without pain, and it is pleasant to know that the Centennial will not be made mournful by any failure on the part of Siam to show her friendly feelings toward us.

While we can thus heartily rejoice that Siam intends to display her productions and manufactures at Philadelphia next Summer, we cannot help wondering what sort of articles will be exhibited in the Siamese department. It is generally understood that the chief productions of the kingdom are rice, Kings, white elephants, and twins. Now, rice, whether in its crude condition or in the shape of pudding, is so familiar to us that an exhibition of Siamese rice would be extremely uninteresting. A Siamese King would doubtless possess some interest for people who have contracted a taste for Kings, but the recent visit of King KALAKAUA has given us fair warning that Kings, especially those of the colored variety, are very expensive curiosities. The hotel bills of the Kanaka Monarch show that he consumed about two dozen bottles of champagne and four hundred cigars per day, besides sleeping in eight bedrooms and occupying three parlors. But Siam is much larger than the Hawaiian Kingdom, and a Siamese King would probably be proportionately more expensive than a Kanaka King. However, in all probability, Siam will not feel able to spare a King, even for Centennial purposes. It is true that she has two Kings constantly on hand, one of whom is the actual ruler, while the duties of the other no foreigner has ever been able to ascertain. Probably, this extra King was created in order that neither should venture to leave the kingdom for fear that the other would plot against him during his absence. Of course, Siam could not spare both Kings at once, and hence we may be reasonably sure that no Siamese King will be placed on exhibition at Philadelphia.

There remain those two pleasing and ingenious Siamese productions—white elephants and twins. But the latter have wholly lost the charm of novelty. CHANG and ENG resided here some thirty or more years, and the universal verdict was that however ingenious the Siamese style of twins might be, it was not to be compared in point of general utility with the ordinary and simpler American pattern. No one denies that in their own country, Siamese twins may have their uses, but it is quite clear that no American Committee on Twins would award a medal to an exhibitor of Siamese twins, and that the visitors to the exhibition would not take the slightest interest in them. On the other hand, a few white elephants would prove an attractive feature in any exhibition. The difficulty is, however, that the Siamese never keep more than one animal of the sort on hand, and that they regard him with religious veneration. Nothing could induce them to take their sacred white elephant out of his temple, and send him across the sea to be stared at by an irreverent public, which would insult him with presents and poke him with walking-sticks and umbrellas.

It really looks as if Siam will either have to permit the space allotted to her at Philadelphia to remain vacant, or else to fill it up with twins and rice. As has been remarked, we are bound closely to Siam by the tenderest ties, and we ought to be delighted that she is to be represented at the Centennial. Still, an exhibition consisting of a gross of twins, and say, a hundred bushels of rice, would not awaken much enthusiasm, and we had therefore better keep our expectations as to the attractiveness of the Siamese contributions within extremely modest limits.

THE SMALL BOY OF ST. ALBANS.

That small boys should run away from home and tell wonderful stories about themselves is nothing new. In these days of dime novels, the mind of youth is too frequently excited by reading of the lawless exploits of pirates and plumbers, and many a boy dreams of arming himself to the teeth with a kitchen-knife, and of entering upon a bloody and desperate career in the back-yard. Frequently his ambition takes even a wider range, and he runs away to some neighboring village, when hunger, which he finds it impracticable to appease with blood, impels him to surrender himself to the Selectmen, and to tell them a harrowing but purely fictitious tale of his origin and adventures.

That the small boy of St. Albans should have done this is quite in accordance with the customs of his kind, but he has gratuitously displayed an unusual degree of depravity in claiming to be the long-lost CHARLIE ROSS. It is generally believed that his real name is BLANCHARD, and that he recently ran away from Milford, N. H., with the intention of making his way to the Spanish Main, and of fitting out a piratical schooner in order to ravage with fire and sword the local Milford schoolmaster. By the time he reached St. Albans, he was hungry enough to abandon his piratical views, and to endeavor to awaken the sympathies of the authorities. When he announced that he was CHARLIE ROSS, and undertook to substantiate his claim by a minute account of his alleged wanderings since he was first kidnapped, he not only cruelly awakened the hopes of the much-afflicted Mr. ROSS, but he lured the public into a temporary belief that he might possibly have told the truth. Of course, he will be sent home to Milford, where it is to be hoped that he has some relative who possesses a sound judgment in the selection of switches, and who cannot be deceived by surreptitious shingles, or other hidden juvenile armor. That small boy must be made to comprehend that the next time he runs away he must select some other variety of lie wherewith to gain notoriety and supper. For the danger is that his pernicious example will find numerous imitators. We shall have self-proclaimed Charlie Rosses springing up in every direction, unless the switch which awaits Master BLANCHARD on his return to Milford is of such a character as to convince the juvenile public that it does not pay to personate CHARLIE ROSS. It must be plainly understood that there is a limit to juvenile lying, and that this limit precludes all false claims to be CHARLIE ROSS. Let the runaway boy insist, if he so desires, that he is TWEED, or GENET, or TOM FIELDS, or any other missing statesman, but let him fully comprehend that he cannot with impunity meddle with the sad mystery of CHARLIE ROSS.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE VON BULOW CONCERTS.

The concerts given by Dr. Von Bülow, at Chickering Hall, continue, and the distinguished pianist played, last evening, in presence of a large and unusually appreciative audience. The entertainment commenced with a performance of the same quintet by Rubinstein interpreted at the previous concert. The work gains considerably on acquaintance; it is full of original and graceful themes, rather vague and undeveloped, perhaps, but pleasing by their novelty and tunefulness. On the other hand, the quintet is not particularly symmetrical, and it certainly is a trifle long. Two solos by Dr. Von Bülow followed, thirty-two variations on an original theme, delivered with the clearness, power, and variety which are especially prominent in the pianist's treatment of show-pieces of this sort, and, afterward, what we may call a wonderfully vivid exposition of the "sonate caractéristique," Opus 81, bearing for its title "Les Adieux; L'Absence; Le Retour." The executant's more intellectual and sharply-defined than emotional and warmly-colored reading of this number was loudly applauded, and, in acknowledgment of an earnest recall, he good-naturedly reappeared, and added to the programme one of Schumann's minor compositions, that known, we believe, as "Des Abends." The evening was brought to a close with Hummel's familiar septet, which was respectably rendered. Miss Cronyn, who is to sing, we observe, in the remaining concerts, was heard thrice, last night, her "L'Amante Impaziente," by Beethoven, being encored. Dr. Von Bülow and Dr. Damrosch are to play the "Kreutzer" sonata on Monday. The house-bill of Chickering Hall, which has contained several comical errors, editorial and typographical, since the season began, refers to this work as having been dedicated to "Mr." Kreutzer. To have added that it was written by L. Von Beethoven, Esq., would have entitled the editor to the praise of consistency, at all events.

PRESENTATION TO MR. LESTER WALLACK.

Mr. Lester Wallack was greatly surprised and delighted by the midnight proceedings at his theatre yesterday. Having been kept in the vestibule of the house, on the pretext of an intended supper, some minutes after the representation had terminated, he was finally allowed to stray into the auditorium, which he found to be brilliantly lighted, though empty. The whole company, however, was gathered on the stage, and the band was at its post, and it at once became clear that Mr. Wallack's appearance was not wholly unexpected, for the musicians struck up, as if by preconcerted arrangement, "Hail to the Chief," and a hearty cheer arose. Mr. Wallack was promptly conducted on the stage, and was met there by Mr. John Gilbert, who spoke as follows:

Mr. WALLACK: To me has been entrusted the honor of speaking to you on behalf of all those around you now, who in a hearty but unostentatious manner desire to convey to you their united good wishes for the oft recurrence of the anniversary of your birthday. To signalize the present return of the date, we beg of you to accept the present I am about to offer you in the names without distinction, of every member of your staff. The inscription on it says:

Presented to Mr. Lester Wallack on his birthday, Jan. 1, 1876, by the ladies and gentlemen of his company—the orchestra and employes of his theatre—as a slight mark of their united respect, and thorough appreciation of those qualities which have endeared him to them as manager, actor, and friend.

Sir, we are aware that had all those by whom you are beloved, in each and every capacity, known of our intention this evening, it would have taken a larger house than this to contain them, and a larger door to enable the gift to be presented; but we who are more intimately associated with you, whom we are proud to call employer, are selfish enough to desire that in your home you and your family should possess something that shall occasionally remind you of those who are trying to perpetuate the honorable reputation your theatre has so long enjoyed. Any reference to your career is unnecessary—that is known throughout the land and needs no eulogy at our hands—but there are some here who have grown old in your service as managers; there are some here who gratefully remember your kindness when in sickness and trouble, and all here know your worth as a man and as a friend, and they, one and all, therefore, join in wishing you a Happy New Year, with all the blessings prosperity and health bring, and cordially offer you this trifle of our esteem.

As he closed thus, Mr. Gilbert unveiled the gift referred to in his remarks. It consists of a very beautiful parlor ornament of oxidized silver and ebony, two feet and a half in height, and exceedingly massive. From a three-sided stem spring three branches, each of which supports a small *bassin*, and above this is a single *bassin*, over which is a statuette of Fame with the traditional laurel-leaf. The three sides of the stem bear relievo medallions, respectively representing Mr. Wallack as *Elliot Grey* in "Rosedale," as *Léon Delmar* in "The Veteran," and as *Benedick* in "Much Ado About Nothing." The figures are full length, are about five inches in height, and are very delicately modeled. Higher up on the stem are silver bands bearing the titles of the plays with which Mr. Wallack's name is most widely associated, and, on the base, is the inscription, which Mr. Gilbert read in the course of his speech. Mr. Wallack was undoubtedly as much astonished as he was delighted by the presentation. He acknowledged it, however, in well-chosen terms, and with an air of pleasure and gratitude of unmistakable sincerity. Fresh rounds of cheers followed the expression of his thanks.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

There will be no matinée at Wallack's or at the Park Theatre, to-day.

"Rose Michel" will be acted this afternoon at the Union Square Theatre.

The San Francisco Minstrels will receive this afternoon as well as this evening.

A matinée representation of "Pique" may be attended at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, to-day.

A matinée representation of "Henry V." is set down for to-day at the Brooklyn Theatre.

Wood's Museum offers three performances to-day, in honor of the commencement of the new year.

The last subscription performance of the season at the Lyceum Theatre takes place to-night; "Gavaut, Minard et Cie.," will be acted there.

Matinée entertainments may be attended to-day at the Eagle Theatre, at the Olympic Theatre, at Tony Pastor's and at the Parisian Varieties.

HOME GOSSIP.

Mr. Frank Mayo was this week in Louisville.

Herr Wachtel sings in Philadelphia on Monday.

Mr. Barry Sullivan was this week in Memphis.

Miss Maggie Mitchell acted in Cincinnati this week.

Mr. Lingard's engagement in San Francisco has terminated.

Mr. John T. Raymond was in Richmond four nights this week.

Mr. Edwin Adams was at the Providence Opera-house this week.

The Adelaide Phillips Italian Opera Troupe sang this week in Cincinnati.

Mr. Theodore Habelmann is singing with Mme. Fabbri in San Francisco.

The Levy Concert Troupe is a thing of the past. The artists have scattered, unpaid, we learn by the manager, whose gold cornet, it appears, had at last accounts been seized by his irate *pensionnaires*.

"The Two Orphans" was this week the attraction at the Boston Theatre.

The Oates Comic Opera Company was this week at McVicker's, in Chicago.

The George L. Fox Pantomime Company was this week at De Bar's, in St. Louis.

Mr. Dominick Murray acted this week at the Holliday Street Theatre, in Baltimore.

The Kellogg English Opera Troupe was this week at Whitney's Opera-house, in Detroit.

The Baltimore *Sun* of Dec. 28 has the following: "The company engaged to support Mr. Rowe as *Wilkins Micawber*, in the play of "Little Em'ly," at the Academy of Music, struck last night for their wages and there was no performance. The members of the company had been playing for two weeks under Philadelphia managers, who had engaged Mr. Rowe as the star. A large number of persons were disappointed who went to the Academy 'expecting something to turn up' from *Wilkins Micawber*, but found something else had turned up from the company. Mr. Rowe was on hand, but could not play *Wilkins Micawber* without support."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

It is stated that the losses on the tour of the Gye-Benedict combination amount to over two thousand pounds.

There is a rumor that M. Villaret, senior tenor of the Paris Opéra, is about to retire into private life. He has only been at the Opéra ten years.

Advices from San Remo state that Rossi, the tragedian, overcome by fatigue and emotion at the death of his son, had himself fallen ill, and would be unable to return to Paris for some time.

A Jewish opera singer, Signorina Tilche, having refused to play at Verona on a Jewish fast-day, was sued by her Director, but the courts refused to interfere. The impresario has appealed to a higher tribunal.

M. Garnier went to Mentone, to find that the preparation of the plans for the theatre he had been commissioned to build had been assigned by competition to another architect, M. Marsang. The lawyers expect some fun.

The Paris Théâtre Lyrique will open in April with "Le Dimitri" of M. Joncières, and "La Statue" of M. Reyer, which works will be played till the close of the Spring season. In September are to be produced "Le Timbre Argent" of M. Saint-Saëns, followed by "Paul et Virginie" of M. Massé, and "Le Bravo" of MM. Salvayre and Blavet.

There are loud and well-deserved complaints concerning the narrow repertory of the Paris Grand Opéra. Since the new building opened, but six or seven operas have been mounted. The subscribers have also to complain that on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of one week they were treated to "Don Giovanni," and on Saturday, which is usually an off night, they were treated to "Guillaume Tell," and that on the following week again, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, they had "Don Giovanni," and, on Saturday, "Faust," and that on the third week "Don Giovanni" was to be repeated twice at least.

SHOULD CHURCH PROPERTY BE TAXED?

LETTER II.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In addition to the church property already referred to, there is a class known as church schools. These are found almost exclusively in cities, and belong for the most part to Catholic churches. They are exempt from taxation when exclusively used for school purposes and exclusively owned by a religious society. As this class of property is not exempted from taxation for the same reasons that church edifices and the lots upon which they stand are exempted, it does not become necessary to include it in the consideration of the question in hand.

The returns of values made by the census enumerators are difficult to interpret intelligently, for the reason that it is uncertain what descriptions of church property are included. They probably include much that is used for school purposes, and certainly include very much that is used for the burial of the dead. Except in large cities, the church, almost everywhere, will be found surrounded by its graveyard. Even in this City many churches are so surrounded. As, for instance, Trinity, St. Paul's, St. Patrick's, St. Mark's, and others. All such grounds are included in the valuation of church property. By the census of 1870 the value of all kinds of church property in the United States belonging to the leading denominations was placed as follows:

Methodist	$69,854,121
Roman Catholic	60,945,536
Presbyterian	53,263,256
Baptist	41,608,198
Episcopalian	36,514,549
Congregational	15,069,693
Reformed	10,114,470
Lutheran	14,917,747
Unitarian	6,282,675
Universalist	5,692,325
Others	24,150,090
Total	$354,224,595

The President says in his Message that he believes that "in 1850 the church property of the United States which paid no tax, municipal or State, amounted to about eighty-three million dollars. In 1860 the amount had doubled. In 1875 it is about one thousand million dollars."

Let us look at these figures. The following table shows the increase in value, according to the census, of the property of ten principal Churches:

	1850.	1860.	1870.
Methodist	$14,825,670	$33,683,371	$69,854,121
Roman Catholic	9,256,758	26,744,119	60,945,536
Presbyterian	14,543,780	24,227,359	53,265,256
Baptist	11,820,855	19,789,378	41,608,198
Episcopalian	11,375,810	21,665,698	36,514,549
Congregational	8,041,995	13,377,511	15,069,693
Reformed	4,116,280	4,453,820	10,114,470
Lutheran	2,909,711	5,385,179	14,917,747
Unitarian	3,280,392	4,338,316	6,282,675
Universalist	1,718,316	2,856,095	5,692,325
Total	$81,649,797	$156,470,845	$335,324,595

When the President says that the value of church property in 1850 was about eighty-three millions, the figures sustain him. When he says that in 1860 the amount had doubled, the figures nearly sustain him. But when he tells us that in 1875 the untaxed church property amounts to $1,000,000,000, he has no figures to sustain him. The inferences and the rule of progression are against him. Accepting these, the present probable value is less than five hundred millions. But the President further ventures to predict, and says: "By 1900, without check, it is safe to say this property will reach a sum exceeding three thousand millions." Now, it is never safe to make a grossly exaggerated statement, for it is extremely liable to exposure. Thus the value of church property in the United States in—

1850 was about	$83,000,000
1860 was about	166,000,000
1870 was about	332,000,000
1880 perhaps about	664,000,000
1890 perhaps about	1,328,000,000
1900 perhaps about	2,656,000,000

—these last figures being $344,000,000 less than the sum the President thought it safe to say would be exceeded. It would probably be safer to say that in 1900 the value of church property will probably be less than $1,500,000,000 rather than above that sum, for it is well understood that while population or values may double decennially upon a comparatively small basis, that rule ceases to operate when larger figures are reached, and this will prove true of church property. To illustrate this briefly, suppose a man settles in some swamp to-day and to-morrow is joined by a companion, the next day two friends cast in their lot with the first, and so the settlement increases in that ratio for nine days, when the population would reach 128. Then it would be "safe to say" that "without check" the population of that Bogtown would in a few months exceed that of New-York. But there is a check—one not imposed by legislation, sequestration, or blood, but by the operation of natural laws—which hinders such a rate of progression.

The President, then, having created this trifle of $3,000,000,000 of untaxed church property, begins to moralize thereupon as follows: "So vast a sum, receiving all the protection and benefits of government, without bearing its proportion of the burdens and expenses of the same, will not be looked upon acquiescently by those who have to pay taxes." And this is the spook which evokes the recommendation to tax all church property, except possibly church edifices and burial-grounds. These are the "vast" figures which are to figure upon platforms and stumps, in resolutions and orations.

It would not be just to fail to note the exceptions which the President suggests. These are, absolutely, "the last resting-place of the dead, and, possibly, with proper restrictions, church edifices." That is to say, without reservation, cemeteries shall be exempt. Now, possibly, the President does not know that some of these, adjacent to cities where intramural interments are prohibited, are stock companies, earning and declaring dividends, and that such are, as sources of revenue, just as fairly subject to taxation as a bank of discount. But let that pass. Taking the country through, it is probable that a least one-fifth of the value of church property consists of the said last resting-places of the dead. The temple, hallowed to the religious mind as dedicated to Divine worship, is doubly hallowed to the common mind when surrounded by the remains of those who rest beneath the sod. Death and the hope of resurrection are thus sweetly associated, and that is well. This reservation does credit to the President's heart, but it plays the mischief with his figures and his doctrine. If, as he says, in 1900 the church property will amount to $3,000,000,000, one-fifth of that property, or $600,000,000, he proposes to exempt, and that is a good deal more than the present value of all kinds of church property.

In all these figures no account is taken of church debts. These may be estimated at about twenty per cent. of the value of the property. These debts are taxable, or, if not taxed, it is because of some general law, and not because they constitute a part of church property.

GEO. H. ANDREWS.

DEMOCRATIC INTENTIONS.

HOW THEY WILL TREAT THE FINANCIAL QUESTION—SPEECH OF AN INDIANA CONGRESSMAN.

Hon. Franklin Landers, the Democratic Representative in Congress from the Seventh District of Indiana, made an elaborate speech upon the financial question in Greencastle, that State, on Tuesday last, and it is reported in full in the Indianapolis *Sentinel*. Referring to the organization of Congress, and speaking from intimate knowledge of the feelings of the Democratic majority, he said:

"Congress has only organized. There has nothing been done in the way of legislation. The last thing done before we left Washington was to announce the committees. I am of the opinion, gentlemen, that there is a misapprehension as to the views of members of Congress upon the real questions of the day. It would seem by looking over the committees, especially the important ones, those which are to shape the financial question, that a majority of the members composing them are in favor of specie payments. If I am not mistaken, there is a majority of the Democratic House of Congress in favor of the legal-tender currency as against that of the national banks. [Applause.] I think whenever a vote is taken in that body, you will find that I am right. This question of the currency did not enter much into the organization of the House. By looking over the list of officers elected you will find Mr. Kerr, of Indiana, as Speaker; Mr. Thompson, of Ohio, Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee of that State, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Mr. Adams, of Kentucky, Clerk of the House. Messrs. Thompson and Adams are greenback men—avowedly so. Mr. Thompson was in full sympathy with the Ohio Democracy in their late contest. He was the Chairman of the central committee in that contest. He fights for the people. I think that the Speaker will find the sentiment of Congress is different from the sentiments of his committees. I, for one, was not willing to ignore the financial question in the organization of the House. I had been elected in this district upon that question almost alone, and, knowing the views of Mr. Kerr, notwithstanding he was a distinguished citizen of Indiana, notwithstanding he was a high-toned gentleman and a man of honor, I felt it to be my duty, as a Representative of this great central district, that he was so much interested in the question, to cast my vote in the caucus against him. I voted for Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Randall was in full sympathy with the Pennsylvania platform, which was very similar to our own. I regretted very much to separate from my colleagues upon this question, and c

THE CENTENNIAL YEAR.

WELCOMING THE ADVENT OF 1876.

THE STREETS THRONGED WITH REJOICING CROWDS—SCENES AROUND OLD TRINITY—RINGING THE CHIMES—OTHER DEMONSTRATIONS.

Americans have frequently been accused of a lack of patriotism and a want of that demonstrative love of country which characterizes the people of other lands. No one who witnessed the scenes which were presented in the streets of New-York last night and this morning could fail to be impressed with the belief that this accusation was an unjust one. In Broadway and all the principal thoroughfares large crowds were to be seen waiting for the advent of the Centennial year of American Independence; and the men and women that composed them were as demonstrative, and rejoiced at the dawn of the one hundredth birthday of their country with as much animation as would a throng of French people on a similar occasion. Yet this rejoicing had in it not a little of the quiet earnestness which is part of the Saxon character.

The crowds that assembled to hear the chimes of Trinity ring the old year out and the new year in numbered many thousands. Not only were there solid phalanxes upon the sidewalks from the New-York Life Insurance building down to the last railing of the Trinity enclosure, but there was a perpetual coming and going of people, who preferred walking about to standing still and shivering. Midnight crowds are always more or less mixed, but in this instance the great preponderance of those assembled were of the most respectable character, and included a very large proportion of ladies. There were two lines of carriages, one on each side of Broadway, and directly in front of the main entrance of Trinity was a Fulton-ferry stage, filled with a party of beaus and belles from Fifth Avenue, who came to show that folks could be fashionable and be patriotic too. The chimes of the great parish church of the Episcopalians of New-York began to sound at 11:30 P. M., and the sweet rhythm rolled unchallenged and unrivaled through the silence of the night. But when it wanted only ten minutes to midnight, there commenced a wild confusion of sounds, which not only confounded chaos, but absolutely drowned the sweet melody of the chimes. Fog whistles and steam whistles began to screech from the river, and from the Post Office, bells began to jangle from every direction, cannon were fired, and rockets discharged in front of No. 1 Broadway, the old Kennedy mansion, where Gen. Putnam had his head-quarters, and where the statue of George III. was pulled down from its pedestal. The noise was indescribable. Suddenly there was a lull, and then a hush, and the last quartet sounded from Trinity's tall tower. Then the iron note of Time rang out upon the night, but before the clang was repeated seven times the uproar commenced again and was supplemented by a spontaneous burst of cheering that came from the multitudes. The chimes commenced again with the "Old Hundredth" famous psalm tune, and hundreds sang it *sotto voce*. And now many of the carriages began to move away, but many still remained. The thousands, however, stuck fast, and it was only when the notes of "Home, Sweet Home" floated from the tower, that the immense throngs began to melt away slowly. Even then the streets were crowded, and many of the stores open, and it was hard to realize that the hour was past midnight, and that the Centennial year had come.

GRACE CHURCH BELLS.

THE THRONGS THAT LISTENED TO THEIR CHIMES LAST NIGHT—SCENES IN AND AROUND THE EDIFICE.

At Grace Church the bells were rung by Messrs. John Senia and J. A. Gilbert, according to the announcement, beginning at 11:30 o'clock, with the ringing of the "Silver Chimes." The programme was as follows:

Before Midnight.—1. Silver Chimes. 2. March, Tannhauser. 3. Calvary. 4. Sicilian Hymn. 5. Old Hundred. 6. Luther's Hymn.

At Midnight.—1 Thirty royal changes, with firing of bells. 2. America. 3. Hail Columbia. 4. Red, White, and Blue. 5. In Fairy Land, Oberon. 6. Men of Raleigh. 7. Nine Bells of Scotland. 8. To all you ladies now on this land. 9. The Bells of St. Michael's Tower. 10. Near Thee. 11. Oft in the Stilly Night. 12. Scotch melody. 13. Auld Lang Syne. 14. Yankee Doodle.

The church was opened shortly after 11 o'clock, and long before the ante-midnight part of the programme was completed, the seats were all taken up, and the aisles were crowded with men and women struggling for admission. The steps of Stewart's retail store on the Broadway and Tenth street sides were covered with people, and the sidewalk opposite the church for two or three blocks was completely obstructed.

On the church sidewalk hundreds of ladies and gentlemen who were unable to get inside the edifice remained until long after midnight listening to the ringing of the bells. A number of the regular congregation of the church were present in the audience, but some of them arrived too late to get in and were compelled to remain outside. A large number of carriages, many of which were occupied, were standing along both sides of Broadway, between Eleventh and Ninth streets. Altogether there must have been from three to five thousand persons who made it their especial business to hear the New Year's bells at this church. It is said that the ringing was executed in a most unexceptional manner. Particularly pleasing was the rendering of the "Blue Bells of Scotland" and the "Bells of St. Michael's Tower." Previous to the bell ringing and during the intervals between the selections, Mr. Henry Carter, organist of Trinity Church, played upon the organ the following selections: 1. "Symphony from Mendelssohn's Lobgesang." 2 "Soft Movement, by Westley." 3. "Beethoven's Grand March from Fifth Symphony."

REJOICING IN PHILADELPHIA.

CELEBRATING THE ADVENT OF THE NEW YEAR AT INDEPENDENCE HALL—THE STREETS CROWDED WITH ENTHUSIASTIC CITIZENS—AN ELOQUENT MIDNIGHT ADDRESS—HISTORICAL REMINISCENCES CONCERNING THE OLD STATE-HOUSE.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 1—A. M.—This will be a memorable night in the Centennial city. The patriotism of the citizens is thoroughly aroused, and there is scarce a dwelling or business house but what is decorated, and from the windows of which lights stream forth, making the otherwise dull and foggy weather bearable. A heavy mist, accompanied by drizzling rain, overhangs the city, but the spirit of the crowds on the streets is not in harmony with the dullness of the weather. Every spot connected with Revolutionary times is marked, especially the building where Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, at the south-west corner of Seventh and Market streets—a dingy, painted brick structure—bears an inscription showing what makes it famous. Carpenter's Hall, where the first Assembly met, is illuminated, and gas jets over the door say, "The Nation's Birth-place."

Independence Hall, on Chestnut street, between Fifth and Sixth, where the nation's freedom was declared, is the centre of attraction. Thousands of persons visited the place to-night and viewed the bell which rang out the tidings of great joy in 1776. The State-house, or, as it is named, Independence Hall, on account of the event which occurred there, was designed by Dr. John Kearsley, Jr., and commenced in 1729. It was finished in 1734, cost $5,600, (some authorities say that the upper story was not finished for sixteen years after the lower.) In 1735-6, in the month of February, the Provincial Council passed an act vesting the State-house, as also the other public buildings of the city, in Trustees for the use of the province, and in 1738 the same body enacted that that part of the State-house lot not built upon should remain a public green and walks forever. The limits of this lot were only to the centre of the square, and it was not until 1760 that another act was passed enabling the Trustees to purchase the lot of ground on the southern half of the Walnut street front. It was not until 1774 that Mr. John Vaughan, an Englishman, suggested the improvement of the lot by planting trees in it. The internal arrangements of the State-house have been altered at various times. The lower rooms have not been, but still from time to time repairs were found necessary. The State-house was also used as the place where civic dinners were given. Mayor William Allen giving a feast there in 1732, not long after the building was completed, at his own expense. The Assembly also gave a dinner to Gov. Denny there, in 1756. In 1757 the corporation gave a banquet to Lord Loudon and Gen. Forbes. In 1744 the gentlemen of the city assembled at the city tavern, and then went to the House dining hall. The part of the building where our forefathers wined and dined was called the "Long Gallery," the same place where Peale afterward had his museum. The last improvement that has been made to Independence square is now being perfected. The old State-house lots, so called, have been laid out in flag pavement walks, the grass plots have been well sodded and some will be planted in flowers. Old and dead-hearted and dead-limbed trees have been removed and many others planted in their places. A fine granite coping has been set on the top of the old wall all round the square, and flights of granite steps, of easy ascent and amplitude of breadth, terminate every walk. The centre of the square has been appropriated to Story's monument, now being made in Rome, for the National Monumental Association. The first bell suspended was cast in England in 1751, weighed 2,000 pounds, and arrived in Philadelphia in 1753. It cracked, however, after being suspended only a few days and another bell was cast in this city out of the old material, but it, too, was found to be defective by reason of an improper preparation of metals in the amalgamation. So yet another was made in June, 1753, and this proved successful. It hung in the tower for many years, when one day it also cracked. This bell stands now in the centre of the State-house, upon its original support. The history of the steeple, too, is somewhat various, two or three having at different times surmounted the building. It was not till 1828, on Feb. 7, that Francis Guerney Smith offered a resolution in Common Council that a joint committee of the two chambers be appointed to have the turret in the rear of the State-house surveyed, and, if found adapted to the purpose, to procure a plan and estimates of the cost. An order was given to Isaiah Lukens to construct a clock with power to strike a 4,000-pound bell, and to cost $2,000. The order was given on Feb. 20, 1829. The bell, the order for which had been given to John Wiltbank, was finished and set, but proving to be a bad one, was taken down and another put up weighing 4,60? pounds. This was struck for the first time at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, Dec. 30, 1828, and again at 8 o'clock the same evening. The clock was not finished till Jan. 1, 1829. It was set in motion on that day.

Independence Hall is decorated beautifully, a large shield containing a bust of Washington being crowned with wreaths, and Columbia, surrounded by flags, over main entrance, flanked by figures symbolizing 1776-1876. Calcium lights in the steeple of the hall light up the neighborhood, and lights opposite reflect on Independence Hall, showing off the decorations as though it was noonday. The Penn Club building opposite is handsomely adorned, as well as the large business houses all along the thoroughfare. Messrs. Moody and Sankey are holding hourly meetings, and great crowds are in attendance. As early as 11 o'clock there were at least twenty thousand people at the hall, waiting for the ceremonies of midnight to commence, and the crowd is increasing every moment. Calathumpian bands are parading in great numbers, and the din of horns, pistols, and voices is almost deafening.

MIDNIGHT.—The old year was saluted with twenty thousand voices as it passed out. The first tap of the State-house bell was the signal for the outburst. As the bell tolled out the last minutes of the dying year, the Second Regiment fired a salute of thirteen guns, church bells and bells of all sorts were pealing, and the fire of musketry, combined with the general noise, made a scene which pen fails to make graphic and the artist's pencil cannot depict. After the midnight hour had finished striking, the bell in Independence Hall steeple was tolled as follows: One-seven-seven-six, one-eight-seven-six, followed by 100 strokes. While the bells were pealing Mayor Stokely threw to the breeze a flag, a fac-simile of the one Washington raised over the same Hall in 1776. Rev. Walter Q. Scott invoked the Divine blessing upon the enterprises of the new year, and Hon. Benjamin Harris Brewster was introduced. He made a short speech, in the course of which he said: "At this instant we stand upon the verge of a new year. The old one that is to pass away is one of a hundred like it, that have been freighted with the joys and sorrows of a young nation, and the new one that is to enter in will begin another century of a national life matured by serious trials and strengthened by a career of marvelous prosperity. It is a solemn moment. We have taken our place among the powers of the earth, and we have begun to evangelize men in the cause of human rights, for the sake of human liberty. Our example has subverted the tyrannies that once cursed men, and roused them to a sense of a more perfect manhood. This is our mission, and thus far have we well performed it. Let us silence the noise of all discord at home. Let us unite in future as our fathers were united in their days of trial. Let us acknowledge and maintain, as they did, our national unity, for the sake of our common liberties, and then we will be an example for others to imitate and honor. This city, this spot, was the scene of these labors, and it is because we rejoice over their deeds that we have come together at this dark hour of midnight to greet the coming year. Soon will those new days be with us, and from all the nations of the earth will come wanderers across the seas to join with us in our great jubilee. When they come we must receive them with cordial hospitality, and be ourselves in fraternal unity. No such event has ever adorned the annals of history. Men have flocked to see religious rites, to aid in public games and exhibitions; but mankind never before came together to recognize and celebrate the hundredth birthday of a nation. It never happened before, as no such nation ever lived. No nation ever before this time thus proudly asserted itself and took its place among the powers of the earth.

The result of this event will be to send back those who visit us filled with new thoughts and new resolutions, and that may change the order of human affairs, and create new destinies for old nationalities. We will profit by their coming. We will take help from their more polished tone of civilization, and subdue our sense of self-importance; but they will learn lessons of public policy, and private right, practically enforced, that will strengthen their manhood and reform their national and individual beings. But I must end this. The hour as it approaches admonishes me to be done. Here we are happy in our common prosperity, happy in our past history, happy in our hopes of the future, and happy in a common confidence in Divine protection. May another hundred years see freemen of our united nation like ourselves thus gathered together, for a like purpose and in a like spirit, to tell all men that their mission, as ours, is 'Peace on earth and good will to men.'"

THE NEW YEAR IN OTHER PLACES.

RINGING OF BELLS AND FIRING OF A SALUTE IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1—12:30 A. M.—No elaborate preparations were made to celebrate the beginning of the Centennial year, but its advent was not entirely unannounced. Many of the inhabitants remained awake to welcome it, and those unsentimental souls that sought early slumber were not permitted to sleep unconscious of the hour. A few minutes before midnight the fire-alarm bells were rung, and the number 1-7-7-6 was struck. At precisely 12 o'clock they struck the New Year, 1-8-7-6. By order of the District Commissioners, a salute of thirty-seven guns, one for each State, was fired, the first match being applied at the signal of the midnight bells. At the same hour the great Fresnel light on the Capitol dome was ignited by its electrical apparatus, and flashed its rays abroad over the city. The chimes in Dr. Newman's church rang out a series of patriotic airs. In the Methodist churches watch-meetings were held, and there were services in several of the Episcopal churches.

BRILLIANT DISPLAY AND GREAT ENTHUSIASM IN POUGHKEEPSIE.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Jan. 1—A. M.—The celebration of the incoming of the Centennial year in this city to-night was a grand affair. From candle-light till after the march of the procession the streets were thronged with people. The General Committee, at the head of which was Mayor Carpenter, made liberal arrangements for everything, and in their efforts were heartily supported by the special committee from the Common Council. The illuminations in many places were superb, and mottoes and transparencies were everywhere visible. As the city clock struck 12, Bald Eagle Battery, stationed on the summit of College Hill, commenced firing a salute of 100 guns, and simultaneously all the bells of the city commenced to ring, the movement being accompanied by the blowing of locomotive whistles at the railway depots. It was the general signal for the forward movement of the procession as follows:

Fire Wardens, Grand Marshal, Brig. Gen. George Parker.

First Division—Twenty-first Regiment Band, Twenty-first Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., Col. Smith commanding; the Mayor and Common Council in carriages; Veteran Volunteers and posts of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Second Division—Wappinger's Falls Band; Fire Department, Chief Engineer Shurter commanding; St. Peter's Total Abstinence Benevolent Society.

Third Division—Highland Band; Knights of Pythias; Order of United American Mechanics; citizens generally; Bald Eagle Battery.

The line of march was not very long, and through paved streets only. As the procession filed through the streets with bands playing and drums beating the scene was a magnificent one. Ladies crowded the illuminated windows and waved handkerchiefs and flags, and blazing chemical fires of green, red, yellow, and white cast a lurid glare over the entire city. Thousands of people witnessed the spectacle. Public and private buildings were decorated with flags, and the committee having distributed fire-works at different points, the air was filled with rockets, colored fires, balls from Roman candles, and bursting bombs. There were also many displays of fire-works by private individuals. One hundred guns were fired in rapid succession. Many people were here from other places.

AT CLEVELAND.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 1.—The dawn of the Centennial year was celebrated by the citizens of Cleveland in a manner long to be remembered. All the city and public buildings were brilliantly illuminated, a large oil-still was placed on the public square, connected with a receiver 300 feet distant, into which was poured a large tank of coal oil, as fast as consumed, which, together with the other combustibles, made the most brilliant bonfire ever seen in this city. The Cleveland Grays paraded through the streets and at 12 o'clock fired a salute. The Cleveland light artillery fired a salute of 100 guns. At five minutes before 12 o'clock all the bells in the city commenced ringing, all the steam-whistles were blown, and all the buildings and residences on the principal streets were gaily decorated with flags, evergreens, and transparencies. At this hour the city in the vicinity of Monumental Park is a great blaze of gas-light and bonfires, and the people are wild with enthusiasm.

CENTENNIAL REJOICINGS IN NEWARK.

At the Newark (N. J.) Industrial Institute last night, the advent of the Centennial year was celebrated in a unique and pleasant manner. The programme included vocal and piano solos and original songs. At midnight Gen. Joseph C. Jackson, of New-York, delivered a stirring and patriotic Centennial address, at the conclusion of which the audience rose and sang the "Star-spangled Banner" and "Old Hundred." Dancing was then commenced, and was kept up until far into the morning. During the entertainment the building was crowded with a fashionable and appreciative audience. In addition to the above the fire-alarm bell rang 100 times, commencing at midnight, the church bells were rung, and a salute of 100 guns was fired.

ELSEWHERE.

LITTLE FALLS, Jan. 1—A. M.—Little Falls inaugurates the Centennial year by a salute of 100 guns, the ringing of bells, and a parade of the Fire Department and civic associations.

NEW-HAVEN, Dec. 31.—To-night a large Centennial meeting was held under the auspices of Admiral Foote Post G. A. R., at which speeches were made by Hon. N. D. Sperry, Mayor Lewis, and others, with appropriate songs and recitations. At midnight the flag was raised on the City Green, and a salute of thirteen guns fired. Then the fire-bells rang 1-8-7-6 five times, and a huge bonfire was lighted at the corner of Church and Chapel streets. To-morrow at noon, the fire bells will ring the numbers 13-100-37, and the entire Fire Department will gather at the City Hall. To-night all the bells rang for nearly half an hour after midnight.

UTICA, Jan. 1—A. M.—Utica welcomed the Centennial year with a grand midnight parade by the military, civic societies, and civic associations, the illumination of public and private buildings and places of business, fireworks, salutes, the ringing of church bells and chimes, and a general rejoicing on the part of the inhabitants. There will be parades by the military and fire department to-day.

JAMESTOWN, Jan. 1—A. M.—The Centennial year was ushered in here with a salute of 100 guns, ringing the church and fire bells, music and bonfires.

NEWBURG, Jan. 1.—The Centennial year was ushered in here by a large torchlight procession at midnight, in which were the Common Council, Fire Department, the Nineteenth Regiment, and several civic organizations with flags, banners, and appropriate mottoes. The line of march was illuminated by fireworks, colored fires, and blazing tar-barrels. At 12 o'clock all the bells of the city commenced ringing, and continued for half an hour, and a chorus of steam whistles lasted some time. Many of the houses and places of business were illuminated, and great enthusiasm prevailed. A national salute was fired on the Washington Head-quarter grounds.

HARTFORD, Jan. 1—A. M.—The Centennial year was ushered in here by the ringing of bells and firing a salute of thirty-eight guns, one for each State, and one for Colorado by order of the Mayor. At midnight the fire-alarm bells struck 1, 7, 7, 6, and at 12:30 o'clock 1, 8, 7, 6. The streets are thronged with people. Bonfires are lighted, and there are various manifestations of enthusiasm. New-Britain is also celebrating by bell-ringing and bonfires.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 31.—Cannon-firing, bonfires, and bell-ringing welcomed the Centennial year in Woonsocket and Pawtucket.

SYRACUSE, Jan. 1.—A magnificent demonstration in honor of the birth of the Centennial year was witnessed in this city previous to midnight. The business portions of the city were one blaze of brilliancy, and the private residences on the streets through which the procession passed displayed bunting and lanterns. The Sumner Corps Battalion, companies of the National Guard, the Fire Department, and several civic societies participated in the parade. As the hour of 12 o'clock struck, a congregation of Central Railroad locomotives sent up their screams, all the church bells were tolled, and a centennial salute was fired from 12 midnight to 2 A. M. The military, fire companies, and civic associations paraded; five-minute speeches were made by local orators. All the public and church bells were rung, and considerable enthusiasm was manifested among the crowds on the streets.

ROCHESTER, Dec. 31.—Rochester welcomed the Centennial year with violent demonstrations of fireworks, illumination of public and private buildings and newspaper offices, and the clangor of tin-horns. A national salute of guns was fired from the heaviest ordnance in the battery of artillery. The commemoration was a national outburst of patriotism, the like of which was never seen in this city before.

RUTLAND, Jan. 1.—The old year was ushered out and the new year ushered in by the ringing of bells and firing of cannon.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The Centennial year was ushered in in this city by a salute of thirty-seven guns in each division of the city—North, South, and West sides. The members of the Board of Trade this afternoon held their annual farewell festivities in honor of the close of the old year.

WORCESTER, Dec. 31.—The opening of the Centennial year was observed in this city in the most enthusiastic manner. At 8 o'clock this evening a general illumination was begun, lasting till midnight, while the streets were thronged with people, and the hills surrounding the city were crowned with bonfires. The illuminated decorations throughout the city were more extensive than on any occasion since Lee's surrender. A public meeting was held at 10 o'clock this evening, at which Gen. Devens, Mayor Jillson and others made appropriate speeches. At midnight all the bells in the city were rung for half an hour, a salute of 100 guns was fired, and numerous private displays of fire-works were made.

SCRANTON, Dec. 31.—The city is in a glow of enthusiasm. At 12 o'clock the church-bells rang and bonfires blazed on every hill around the city.

ALBANY, Dec. 31.—The celebration of the inauguration of the Centennial year here was a grand success. It was participated in by the Ninth Brigade National Guard and the Fire Department. The procession marched through several of the streets. The steam fire-engines and a large number of bands, made the city resound to their music and screechings. These were accompanied by the firing of cannon, guns, pistols, and the blowing of any number of fish-horns. At 11:30 o'clock the chimes of the cathedral and St. Peter's Church were rung until midnight, when the old bell, presented to St. Peter's Church by Queen Anne of England, tolled the old year out. Then the chimes were resumed. The Capitol, and all the public buildings, State and city, were brilliantly illuminated, as were also many private residences. The Governor's mansion was festooned with Chinese lanterns and the national banner. Other residences were likewise decorated, some very handsomely, with the national colors, small flags covering all their windows. The illuminated residences presented a very fine appearance. State street, where the procession formed, was packed with people, there not being less than 25,000 in that street alone. Bonfires blazed in all the public squares, and fire-works, rockets, and Roman candles were constantly flying in the air. Never was there seen a more brilliant and effective illumination in this city.

[The Centennial New Year was celebrated very generally throughout the country. At Auburn and Corning, in this State, and at Columbus, Ohio; Portsmouth, N. H.; Norwich, Conn., and New-Orleans, the greatest enthusiasm prevailed.]

BY MAIL AND TELEGRAPH.

It is officially announced that the Dominion Parliament will be called together to dispatch business on the 19th of February.

Charles Bower, of Beaver Brook, N. Y., was accidentally shot fatally by a companion named Hulse, while gunning on Wednesday last.

E. B. Eddy, of Hull, Canada, has entered suit against Shepherd, Davis & Co., of Boston, for false arrest in Burlington, Vt. The damages are laid at $500,000.

The McIndoes Lumber Company's mill, of McIndoes Falls, was burned yesterday morning. The mill was owned by Estabrook & Bowman. The loss is heavy; insurance, $14,000.

The river at Hudson is partially open, and the ice very poor. Small boats are used in crossing the channel. The ice men are despondent at their prospect for securing the usual crop.

Thursday evening, two boys, William and Robert Dickinson, aged eight and fifteen years, respectively, broke through the ice in the Oswego River, at Oswego, and were drowned.

During the year just closing there have been built in the Boston District 2 ships, 6 barks, 3 schooners, 1 barkentine, 1 steamer, and 8 other vessels, with a total tonnage of 8,439 51-100.

A fire at Waco, Texas, yesterday morning, destroyed Marshall & Baily's block, with the entire contents. The loss is estimated at $90,000; insurance, $11,000. There were other losses amounting to $6,000.

THE MUTUAL COUNCIL.

MEETING OF PLYMOUTH'S COMMITTEE.

THE LETTER MISSIVE DISCUSSED—THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL—STATEMENTS OF JUDGE VAN COTT.

The Special Committee of Five, appointed by Plymouth Church to call a mutual council of Congregational churches to consider the matters at issue between the church and Mrs. Moulton, met at the residence of Mr. Thomas G. Shearman, in Brooklyn, at 9 o'clock yesterday morning. There were present Messrs. R. W. Raymond, Thomas G. Shearman, B. F. Blair, and Thomas J. Tilney, of the committee. Rev. Edward Beecher was absent. Mrs. Moulton was represented by her counsel, Hon. Joshua M. Van Cott. The draft of the letter missive, which was forwarded to Mr. Van Cott the day before, was the first business taken into consideration. Mr. Van Cott expressed himself entirely satisfied with the terms of the document, and after a brief and harmonious discussion by the committee, it was unanimously adopted. The letter missive, as adopted, is very brief, and simply states the fact that the council is called to advise the church and Mrs. Moulton upon the two questions submitted to the church in her memorandum of Dec. 25, 1875, whether Mrs. Moulton had sufficient and valid reasons for absenting herself so long from the sacraments and services of the church, and whether the church had sufficient and valid reasons for dropping Mrs. Moulton's name from the roll of membership.

In reference to the composition of the council, it was agreed that it should be composed of ten churches and five ministers on each side, and that it should meet on Tuesday, Jan. 18, 1876. The committee met again at the residence of Mr. Shearman, at 8 o'clock last evening, for the purpose of perfecting the letter missive, by the selection of the churches and ministers of which the council is to be composed, and of the building in which it is to meet. All the members of the committee were present. It was decided that the council should be held in Brooklyn, but the point at which they stuck was the building. Mrs. Moulton, through her counsel, expressed her willingness to meet in any other church in Brooklyn except Plymouth Church, or in any other proper building besides a church. The names of several churches were suggested, as was also that of the Brooklyn Athenæum, corner of Henry street and Atlantic avenue. The matter was discussed to considerable length, and the general tone of the committee seemed to be in favor of conceding the point, so far as the selection of some other place of meeting besides Plymouth Church was concerned. However, the committee finally came to the conclusion that they had better not decide the question without first submitting it to the church, and hence they decided to adjourn, for the purpose of submitting it to the business meeting of the church, which was then in session. The result of that presentation is given elsewhere.

Judge Van Cott, in conversation with a TIMES reporter, said that the form of the letter-missive was agreed upon, and that the only thing to be arranged was the building in which the council should meet. He said that the list of churches to be invited was not submitted by either side, and could not be until the more important question of locality was settled. Besides, it was impossible to tell what churches would constitute the council, because when the list was made out the churches would have to be invited by letter, or otherwise, and if any one or more of them should refuse to serve, others would have to be selected in their places. When the list was completed, with those to which both sides agreed, then they could be inserted in the letter missive, and the document signed. In reply to the question as to what would be the effect of the refusal of Plymouth Church to accede to Mrs. Moulton's request to select some other building, and whether he thought it would have a tendency to defeat the whole project, Mr. Van Cott said that it was hard to tell. It would at least have the effect of postponing the meeting of the council. It was a question now whether they should waive a point which they considered of vital importance to them, and hold the council under the shadow of all the immense influence of Plymouth Church, or stand upon what they consider justice and right. They would certainly do nothing rash or hasty in the matter, and should take ample time to consider it carefully.

ACTION OF PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

MRS. MOULTON'S REQUEST DENIED—THE BRETHREN REFUSE TO HOLD THE COUNCIL OUTSIDE OF PLYMOUTH.

A large number of members of Plymouth Church attended the Friday evening meeting last night. Brothers McKay and Morton prayed, and Mr. Beecher delivered his usual talk. John J. Daly and Esther C. Malone asked for letters of dismissal from the church. The monthly meeting was then organized, with Brother Hart in the chair, and fourteen applicants were admitted to membership by letter and fourteen by profession of faith. The meeting then adjourned and immediately organized as the adjourned annual meeting, with F. M. Edgarton in the chair.

Dr. Edward Beecher, as Chairman of the committee appointed by the church to call a Mutual Council, reported that they had met Judge Van Cott, Mrs. Moulton's counsel, and had agreed upon all the substantial points involved—as to the form of the letter missive, and the time of holding the council. On one point, however, they had not come to a definite agreement—as to the building in which the meeting should be held. Mrs. Moulton had expressed the desire that the council should, in deference to her feelings, be held in some other building than Plymouth Church. The matter had been discussed in the committee, and the statement made that, in accordance with universal congregational usage, it belonged of right to the church calling the council to fix the place in which it should be held. Nevertheless, the committee, although willing to waive that right, did not feel justified in acceding to the request of Mrs. Moulton without instructions from the church, and had therefore reported for further instruction. In answer to Mr. White, Dr. Beecher said that Mrs. Moulton's representative had mentioned the Pierrepont Street Baptist Church and the Athenæum as fit places in which to hold the council. Brother McKay hoped that the committee would be instructed not to take the council anywhere from where it had been originally decided on holding it, Mrs. Moulton's reasons for her request being untenable. He then moved a resolution directing the committee not to call it anywhere except in the buildings of Plymouth Church.

Mr. Beecher said that if nothing but courtesy was to be taken into consideration he would be the first to move that Mrs. Moulton's request be acceded to. But there was something more than that. According to all Congregational usages the church calling the council had the right to say where it should be held. The relations between Mrs. Moulton and himself were peculiar; either she or he were perjurers. She had asked to have the council taken out of the church simply in deference to her sentiment. It was a concession which the church could not grant without harming him; a concession which went beyond the realm of sentiment and went into that of justice. This was the church from which she had been dropped, which she now sought to enter, and they owed it to themselves and their Pastor that the council be held there and not in any foreign room. [Applause.] Besides, he did not want the implication to go abroad that justice could not be obtained in Plymouth Church. They and he wanted equity, and it was time that the church should cease to be badgered about from post to pillar. On the part of the brethren of Plymouth Church, he would guarantee that there would be no demonstration of any kind, no attempt to create an atmosphere of sympathy on the part of the congregation during the sessions of the council. He promised that they would observe the same respectful silence as they would during the progress of a judicial proceeding in a civil court. Rossiter W. Raymond, in seconding the motion of Brother McKay, said that Mrs. Moulton did not object to the presence of the congregation of Plymouth Church at the council, and it was certainly strange that her feelings did not permit her to enter a building, the right to enter which at any time she had asked a mutual council of churches to determine. It was a desire (he did not wish to call it a whim) for which no adequate reason had been given. He had been inclined to concede her request in the evening; but after the remarks he had heard, supported the motion for its refusal.

After some further discussion between Dr. Edward Beecher, Rev. Henry W. Beecher, Messrs. Ovington and McKay, the resolution of the latter denying Mrs. Moulton's request was carried unanimously. Brother Talmadge, Assistant Clerk, resigned, and Brother Henry W. B. Howard was elected in his place. The meeting then adjourned until after the prayer-meeting on Friday evening next.

PIUTE ANTIPATHY TO TWINS.

The Virginia (Nev.) *Chronicle* says: "This morning a *Chronicle* reporter observed a dejected Piute buck standing on the curb of South C street, and, wonder of wonders! holding in his arms a baby. The brave glanced uneasily about him, as if fearful that his degradation would be observed, and seemed to take anything but kindly to his charge. Presently two squaws emerged from the house behind him, each carrying a papoose on her back, and the three waddled off down the middle of the street. The reporter shortly afterward had the honor of shaking hands with Captain Bob, the Piute swell, resplendent in a green blanket and plug hat, and sought a solution of the baby puzzle. The Captain smiled several inches, and affably explained that the reporter had witnessed one of the domestic penalties of the tribe. Whose twins are born brave, who is not favored with grown-up daughters, he is, by Piute law, obliged to take full charge of the superfluous infant until it is able to walk, when it reverts to the care of the mother. The unfortunate brave is thus subjected to a practical slavery for two years' length, as he hugs the wicklup very closely, being in a chronic state of mortification and disgust. From the manner in which the Captain chuckled and grunted during the explanation, it would seem that the father of twins becomes the butt of the wags of the tribe. 'Two papoose,' concluded Bob, as he gazed wistfully at the worn coat of the reporter, 'no good.'"

AN INSANE ATTACK.

A PROMINENT CITIZEN SHOT IN THE WESTMINSTER HOTEL—PROBABLY A FATAL WOUND.

The Westminster Hotel, corner of Irving Place and Sixteenth street, was yesterday evening the scene of a probably fatal shooting affray between two prominent citizens. Mr. John R. Dillaber, the well-known wholesale liquor merchant of No. 49 Beaver street, was shot by Mr. Romaine Dillon, brother of ex-Park Commissioner Robert G. Dillon. Owing to the lateness of the hour and the confusion consequent on such an unexpected occurrence, the details of the affair could only be gathered with great difficulty. It appears that Mr. Dillon, who is fifty years old and a bachelor, has been boarding at the Westminster for nearly three years past. Mr. Dillaber became a guest of the hotel about five months ago. He is forty years old, and is unmarried. For some months past Mr. Dillon's conduct in the hotel has been regarded as somewhat eccentric, but he was considered perfectly harmless by the attachés of the house. Yesterday evening about 7:30 o'clock Mr. Dillon was sitting on a lounge in the hall of the hotel, when Mr. Dillaber, who was smoking a cigar, came in and began to walk up and down the hall. Suddenly Mr. Dillon sprang up from his seat, and approaching Mr. Dillaber entered into a conversation with him. John R. Trapp, the hall boy, who noticed that an altercation was going on between the two men, ran into the private office of Mr. C. B. Ferrin, the proprietor of the hotel, and notified him. Mr. Ferrin reached the hall just in time to see Mr. Dillon draw a Derringer pistol from his trousers pocket and fire at Mr. Dillaber, who fell to the floor. An alarm was at once given, and Dillon, who made no effort to escape, was promptly arrested by an officer of the Eighteenth Precinct. He refused to make any statement whatever, and simply gave his name and said he was a gentleman by occupation. Capt. Garland ordered him to be locked up, and refused to allow any one to see him. In the meantime Mr. Dillaber had been conveyed to his room in the hotel and Prof. J. R. Wood called in. He found that the large ball from the pistol had entered Mr. Dillaber's left side four inches below the heart, inflicting a probably fatal wound. Stimulants were immediately administered to Mr. Dillaber, and on Coroner Eickhoff calling at the hotel he was sufficiently strong to make an informal statement regarding the affair. Mr. Dillaber said that Dillon on approaching him said "_____ you, are you watching me?" Mr. Dillaber said "No, Sir," when Dillon replied, "you are a _____ liar." and drawing the pistol, shot him. Dillon will be arraigned at the Yorkville Police Court this morning.

SPENCER OF ALABAMA.

DENIAL OF THE CHARGES IN THE REPORT OF THE ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Referring to the report of the Legislative Committee made yesterday at Montgomery, Ala., Senator Spencer says that there is no truth whatever in any of the charges of the committee, which consisted of four Democrats and one so-called Republican, the latter being a personal enemy whom he had refused to aid in securing his appointment as Collector of the Port of Mobile. He says he can prove before the United States Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections that the Republicans carried Alabama in 1872 by over 10,000 majority, and elected a Republican majority in both branches of the Legislature; that he outgoing Secretary of State gave fraudulent certificates to nine defeated Democrat candidates, in order to secure a Democratic majority in the Legislature, the consequence of which was that two separate Legislatures were organized, one known as the Capitol and the other as the Court-house Legislature, the latter Republican and recognized by the Governor. He was not present at the organization of either of them, and knew nothing of the separate organizations until after they had been formed. He had no competitors for the Republican nomination, and received every Republican vote in the caucus, and afterwards in the Legislature. He was offered a unanimous election by the committee from the Democratic Legislature provided he would aid in breaking up a quorum in the Republican Legislature. He refused to do so, when a similar offer was made to other Republicans, but no one was found to agree to the proposition. He says this entire case was tried by the Senate Committee last session, and decided by both the committee and the Senate in his favor.

THE BROOKLYN GAS TROUBLES.

On April 2, 1875, the Department of City Works of Brooklyn, in accordance with a special resolution of the Common Council, entered into a contract with the People's Gas-light Company to supply gas for the street lamps and public buildings in the district occupied by its pipes. On account of the refusal of William A. Fowler, one of the Commissioners of the Department, to comply with the provisions of the contract relative to the monthly payment of bills, and on account of an alleged extortion of $1,000 from the company by the said Commissioner, the latter was formally indicted in the Kings County Court of Sessions, before Judge Moore. Upon being notified of the indictment, Commissioner Fowler gave bonds for $2,000.

THE MINSTER MURDER.

Sarah Minster, wife of Monroe Minster, who shot himself, his wife, and his daughter Carrie at their residence in the rear of No. 346 West Fifty-third street, on Thursday morning, died last evening in the Reception Hospital. Coroner Croker yesterday evening proceeded to the hospital, accompanied by Officer Cook, of the Coroner's office, and impaneled the following jury: F. J. Ledube, Martin Delaney, Thomas F. Resch, V. Eubes, Gabriel Bowerstown, N. J., on Saturday Jan. 1, at 10 o'clock A. M. Gaelitz, George B. Steele, Thomas J. Lee, and Bernard Feeney. An inquest will be held in the case on Monday next at 11 o'clock A. M.

RESIGNATION OF A PASTOR.

On Nov. 22 Rev. Dr. Hugh Miller Thompson, Rector of Christ Church, handed a letter of resignation to the Wardens and Vestrymen of the church, to take effect on the last day of the year, in order that he might accept a call which had been made to him to take charge of the parish of Trinity, in the City of New-Orleans, La. On Dec. 21 Dr. Thompson was informed that his resignation was accepted, in a very complimentary and affectionate letter addressed to him by the officers of his church.

A HEAVY ROBBERY.

Mr. James McGregor, ex-Superintendent of Buildings, reported at the Eighteenth Precinct Station-house last evening that yesterday afternoon diamonds and jewelry valued at $2,000 had been stolen from his residence, No. 42 Irving place. It is not known whether the roobery was effected by sneak thieves or not. The Police of the Eighteenth Precinct, under the command of Capt. Garland, are investigating

THE COTTON MARKETS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 31.—Cotton quiet; Middling, 12¾c; Low Middling, 11¾c; Good Ordinary, 10½c; net receipts, 17,590 bales; gross receipts, 18,111 bales; exports to Great Britain, 14,707 bales; to France, 4,594 bales; coastwise, 378 bales; sales, 7,000 bales; stock, 270,483 bales. Weekly—Net receipts, 68,518 bales; gross, 76,834 bales; exports to Great Britain, 19,822 bales; to France, 10,365 bales; to the continent, 2,432 bales; to the channel, 1,779 bales; coastwise, 5,063 bales; sales, 34,350 bales.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 31.—Cotton steady; Middling, 12¾c; @13c; Low Middling, 12¾c; Good Ordinary, 11¾c; @11¾c. Net receipts, 1,826 bales. Exports to France, 1,058 bales; to the Continent, 1,112 bales; coastwise, 1,700 bales. Sales, 2,000 bales. Stock, 71,312 bales. Weekly—Net receipts, 13,021 bales. Exports, to Great Britain, 4,569 bales; to France, 1,058 bales; to the Continent, 1,112 bales; coastwise, 4,469 bales. Sales, 11,300 bales.

GALVESTON, Dec. 31.—Cotton quiet, demand limited, offerings free; Middling, 12¾c; Low Middling, 12c; Good Ordinary, 11c; net receipts, 3,405 bales; exports coastwise, 2,060 bales; sales, 1,444 bales; stock, 81,413 bales; weekly net receipts, 22,550 bales; gross, 22,682 bales; exports to Great Britain, 14,455 bales; to the Continent, 1,250 bales; to the Channel, 1,380 bales; coastwise, 11,137 bales; sales, 6,127 bales.

SAVANNAH, Dec. 31.—Cotton dull; Middling, 12 13-16c; Low Middling, 12¾c; Good Ordinary, 11¾c; net receipts, 2,945 bales; exports to Great Britain, 3,750 bales; coastwise, 1,201 bales; sales, 1,210 bales; stock, 103,465 bales; weekly net receipts, 20,919 bales; gross, 21,106 bales; exports to Great Britain, 9,432 bales; to France, 1,610 bales; coastwise, 3,602 bales; sales, 8,783 bales.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

LONDON, Dec. 31—12:30 P. M.—United States Bonds, new 5s, 105¼; New-York Central, 97.

2 P. M.—Erie Railway Shares, 14¾.

4 P. M.—Consols, 93⅞ for money, and 93 15-16 for the account.

5 P. M.—Erie Railway Shares, 14⅞.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—Exchange on London, 25f. 12c. for short sight. Rentes, 65f. 65c.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 31—12:30 P. M.—Cotton—The market is quieter. Middling Uplands, 6 15-16d; Middling Orleans, 7 3-16d; sales 8,000 bales, including 1,000 bales for speculation and export; receipts, 13,400 bales, of which 7,600 bales were American. Weekly—Sales of the week, 54,000 bales, of which 4,000 bales were taken for export, and 3,000 bales on speculation; stock in port, 617,000 bales, of which 288,000 bales are American; receipts of the week 108,000 bales, of which 85,000 bales were American; actual export, 4,000 bales; amount of Cotton afloat, 351,000 bales, of which 278,000 bales are American; forwarded from the side direct to spinners, 13,000 bales; American sales of the week, 20,000 bales. Breadstuffs—The receipts of Wheat for the past three days have been 49,000 quarters, of which 20,000 quarters were American. Cotton—Sales arrive weaker; free sellers at last night's prices. Sales of Middling Uplands, Low Middling clause, shipped December, at 6 13-16d.; do. do., January delivery, at 6¾d.; do. do., March and April delivery, at 6 13-16d.

5 P. M.—Breadstuffs market is quiet and unchanged. Provisions—Pork, 82s. 6d. ₱ bbl., for Mess. Bacon, 51s. 6d. ₱ cwt. for Short Clear Middles.

7:30 P. M.—Cotton—Of the sales to-day, 5,100 bales were American.

4 P. M.—Cotton—Sales of Middling Uplands, Low Middling clause, shipped February and March, (per sail,) at 6¾d.; sales of Middling Orleans, low middling clause, shipped January and February, (per sail,) at 7 1-16d.

5 P. M.—The market for Yarns and Fabrics at Manchester is steady. Refined Petroleum, 12d.@12½d. ₱ gallon.

Evening.—Common Rosin, 5s. ₱ cwt.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—5 P. M.—Produce—Tallow, 52s. 9d. ₱ cwt.

Evening—Linseed-oil, 24s. 3d.@24s. 6d. ₱ cwt.; Spirits Turpentine, 29s. 9d.@29s. ₱ cwt.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 31.—Petroleum, 29¼d. for fine pale American.

THE REAL ESTATE MARKET.

No business of any importance was transacted at the Exchange yesterday, Friday, Dec. 31, the only sale being one by Peter F. Meyer of an individual interest in four lots on West One Hundred and Twenty second street, south side, 100 feet east of Tenth avenue, for the nominal sum of $5. The proposed legal sale by R. V. Harnett of a leasehold property on East Fifty-sixth street, east of First avenue, was adjourned sine die. The sales for next week as advertised through legal notices are numerous and, in some instances, of importance. Investors will find it to their interest to consult our weekly list, as published in this column on Monday. To-day the Exchange will be closed.

RECORDED REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

NEW-YORK.

Thursday, Dec. 30, 1875.

4th av., n. w. corner of 62d st., 25.5x60, (¾ part of;) Jansen H. Anderson and wife to Francis Martin..... nom.

4th av., n. w. corner of 62d st., 25.5x60, (¾ part of;) Jansen H. Anderson and wife to William H. Gaskell and others..... nom.

60th st., s. s., 150 ft. w. of 8th av., 53.3x114.5 x95.11x80; Hugh Bleason and wife to Patrick S. Colton..... $5,000

139th st., n. s., 181 ft. e. of Alexander av., 100 x100, 23d Ward; Francis G. Bussell to Chris Wray.....

29th st., n. s., 20x98.9; Anna Buss Bell to Mary J. Reid..... 500

9th av., e. s., 25.1 ft. n. of 40th st., 24.6x72; Henry Dehlrich and wife to Mary Rettenmaier 22,500

47th st., n. s., 300 ft. w. of 2d av., 25x100.5; Jacob David and wife to J. C. H. Wiebold.... 23,000

63d st., s. s., 125 ft. w. of 9th av., 25x100.5; Gilbert E. Doreland and wife to John E. Wright..... nom.

113th st., s. s., 395 ft. w. of 3d av., 25x100.11; Leonhart Heimas and wife to Hirschine Lechenstein..... 5,000

141st st., n. s., 306.6 ft. e. of Alexander av., 50 x100, 23d Ward; Jacob W. and M. Gifford to Sarah Longstreet..... 5,000

Perry st., s. s., 80 ft. w. of 4th st., 20x94.6¾; Charles Hall and wife to Jane Nichol..... nom.

20th st., s. w. corner 1st av., 125x98.9x irregular; also 29th st., n. s., 191.10 ft. w. of 1st av., 366x93.8x irregular; Joseph M. Koehler and wife to Hermann Cohler..... 250,000

6th av., w. s., 75.9 ft. n. of 46th st., 20.8x100; Cornelius Fellows and others to Daniel Lord. 65,000

29th st., n. s., 25x98.9; John Morrisen and wife to Anna E. Beil..... 500

105th st., n. s., 140 ft. e. of 3d av., 18x100.9; Antonia W. T. Kuehn to A. F. G. Knehn..... 10,000

105th st., s. s., 74 ft. e. of 3d av., 18x100.9; same to same..... 10,000

1st av., w. s., 74.8¾ ft. n. of 51st st., 25x100; Sophie Keim to Bernard Amend..... 20,000

5th av., w. s., 79.9 ft. n. of 46th st., 20.8x100; Daniel Lord, jr., and wife to Cornelius Fellows. 65,000

48th st., n. s., 200 ft. e. of 11th av., 24.6x100.5; Owen Murphy and wife to John Rose..... 17,000

81st st., n. s., 306.6 ft. e. of Alexander av., 50x 100, 23d Ward; Charles H. Longstreet and wife to Jacob W. Gifford..... 5,000

54th st., n. s., 175 ft. w. of 10th av., 25x100.5; John Loehr and wife to John G. Huptel and others..... 12,000

183d st., s. s., 175 ft. w. of 7th av., 100x99.11; Edward Oppenheim and wife to Henry Hyman and wife..... 16,000

Road leading to Fordham from Tremont, irregular, 24th Ward; Joseph J. Potter and wife to Charles A. Potter..... nom.

139th st., n. s., 181.6 ft. e. of Alexander av., 100x100, 23d Ward; Christopher Wray and wife to Virginia Bussell..... nom.

83d st., s. s., 100 ft. w. of 6th av., 16.8x irregular; Joseph F. Foster and wife to Keith W. Houghton..... 6,000

124th st., n. s., 247 ft. w. of 2d av., 20x100.11; Robert B. Roosevelt, Referee, to Phelix Connor..... 8,500

83d st., s. s., 50.6 ft. w. of 4th av., 25.5x49.6; Sarah E. Rayor (Executrix) to Melissa C. Wilson..... 9,000

Prescott-place, e. s., 50.5 ft. n. of 49th st., 16.8 x54; Daniel Wiesner and wife to Christiana Stape..... nom.

74th st., s. s., 100 ft. w. of Avenue A, 50x102.2; also 74th st., n. s., 200 ft. w. of Avenue A, 50x102.2; Louis Zelmer and wife to Patrick Farley..... 88,000

71st st., n. s., 160 ft. e. of 4th av., 20x102.2⅜; Archibald W. Speir (Referee) to Robert Murray..... 6,000

45th st., s. s., 100 ft. w. of 2d av., 25x100; John P. O'Neill (Referee) to Peter Keurer..... 2,000

Elm st., n. w. corner of Catherine lane, 41.6x 97.2½; Bernard S. Mowtaffery (Referee) to Hugh Cassidy and others..... 3,100

Church st., (No. 189,) e. s., 25.1½ ft. s. of White st., 25x75; Meyer Rosenthal and wife and others to Sidney Levi..... nom.

83d and 84th sts., middle line of, 175 ft. w. 9th av., 25x37.11; James A. Striker and wife and others to Jacob Debobeu..... 1,800

Rae st., s. s., 152.3 ft. e. of Branch Railroad; 50x150, (234 Ward;) Bernard Reilly to Francis Reilly..... 1,000

23d st., n.s., 100 ft. e. of 9th av., 18.9x98.9; Joseph Schulls and others to Meyer Hecht.. 23,000

56th st., n. s., 150 feet w. of 6th av., 75x100.5; Richard S. Tracy and others to Samuel Zeimer. 91,000

45d st., s. s., 115 feet e. of 2d av., 17x100.5; Sigmund Schwartz and wife to Emanuel Levi. .....

CITY REAL ESTATE.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

SUNDAY EDITION.

THE BEST OF ALL THE SUNDAY JOURNALS.

Large and constantly increasing circulation, and best advertising medium in New-York.

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Second door east of 8th av. New-York.
Loans on Real Estate. Fire Insurance.

FOR SALE AT A BARGAIN,
TO CLOSE UP TWO ESTATES,
Five lots, 94 feet on north side
55TH ST.,
100 feet west of Park av., adjoining new brown-stone houses, three 18 and two 20 feet lots, on very easy terms. Apply to office estate of William H. Raynor, No. 1,300 Broadway.

FOR SALE—A LARGE, FIRST-CLASS HOUSE, four-story and basement, furnished or unfurnished, with all the modern conveniences, Nos. 36 and 38 East 30th st., between Madison and Park avs.; house 38.6 feet front, lot, 55 feet by half the block. Apply to THOMAS MURPHY, No. 31 Broad st.

PARTIES WISHING TO EXCHANGE PROPerties will do well to call on us; we deal in first-class property only; we offer for sale or exchange elegant villas, improved farms, well rented City property and unincumbered, well located lots; we buy and sell mortgages, insurance stocks, and miscellaneous securities, obtain loans, &c.; all orders promptly attended to. Principals only need call or address.
E. A. CONDIT & CO., No. 152 Broadway.

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NO. 1 PINE ST. AND NO. 956 BROADWAY,
Corner 23d st., New-York.
DAVID M. CLARKSON. GEORGE C. CHANDLER.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S LIST
OF HOUSES FOR SALE BY
E. H. LUDLOW & CO., NO. 3 PINE ST.

5th av., cor. Washington square, double house.
5th av., near 13th st., 3 stories, 20x60, fine order, lot 100.
5th av., cor. 15th st., large house, with stable.
5th av., near 16th st., extra wide and elegant.
5th av., near 28th st., beautiful basement house, with 3-story back building.
5th av., near 29th st., large corner house.
5th av., near 44th st., extra wide, with back building.
5th av., opposite the Windsor Hotel, medium width.
5th av., near the Windsor, new and beautiful house.
5th av., near 57th st., 4 stories, 27x65, and 3-story ext.
5th av., opposite the Central Park, first-class house.
Madison av., on Madison square, large and elegant house, with stable.
Madison av., near 29th st., 4 stories, 25x65x100.
Madison av., a fine north-west corner, 28 feet wide.
Madison av., near 37th st., 4 stories, 25x80 feet, fine order.
Madison av., near 38th st., new and elegant house.
Park av., on Murray Hill, large corner.
Park av., near 38th st., elegant full-size house.
Lexington av., near 29th st., 4 stories, 25x65x100.
E. 14th st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 24x60.
E. 16th st., near Union square, 25x60, and 2-story ext.
W. 17th st., near 5th av., extra wide and deep.
E. 21st st., near Broadway, lowith basement, 22x70.
E. 22d st., near Broadway, 4 stories, 23x65 and ext.
E. 24th st., near Madison square, 3 stories, 20.6x40 and extension.
E. 25th st., near Madison square, 4 stories, 25x80; independent walls.
W. 125th st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 27x54 and 2-story extension.
E. 29th st., near 4th av., beautiful basement, fine order.
E. 30th st., near 4th av., beautiful French basement, 19.9x65x98.9.
E. 34th st., near Madison av., 4 stories, 18.9x80x98.9.
W. 36th st., near 5th av., 4 stories, stone, 26x60, perfect order.
E. 36th st., near 5th av., large house, with stable and two lots.
E. 37th st., near 5th av., 2 brown stones, each 25x60.
E. 38th st., near 5th av., first-class, with lot and stable through to 39th st.
E. 39th st., near Mad. av., extra wide, with grounds.
E. 39th st., near Mad. av., 4 stories, 25x60, well built.
E. 42d st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 22x55x98.9.
W. 42d st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 21.6x55, leasehold.
E. 45th st., near 5th av., 1st class, full size, expensively finished.
W. 46th st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 20.6x55x100.5.
W. 47th st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 2 fine houses, leasehold.
E. 48th st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 25x63, and ext. 4 stories, 18x75.
W. 48th, 49th and 50th sts., near 5th av., several desirable modern houses on Columbia College leased lots.
E. 53d st., adj. 5th av., new 1st class, 25x60, 3 story ext.
W. 55th st., near 5th av., handsome house, medium size.
W. 56th st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 25x68x100.5.
E. 57th st., near 5th av., 4 stories, 25x65, and ext.
E. 57th st., near 5th av., beautiful modern house of medium size.

Immediate possession of many of the above houses can be had. For permits and further particulars apply at the office, No. 3 Pine st.

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ON AND AFTER THIS DATE OUR BRANCH office, No. 35 East 17th st., will be closed for the transaction of business except registering property and granting permits. All communications left there will be transmitted to No. 3 Pine st., at once by private telegraph. E. H. LUDLOW & CO.

FIFTH AV., BELOW 50TH ST.—A FINE, extra wide house and extension; price low. Also, Nos. 566, 566, 583, 614, and 628 5th av. Others, very desirable, on and near 5th av., $25,000 to $50,000 and upward. W. P. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

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FOR SALE—BUILDINGS SUITABLE FOR MANUfactories, in Brooklyn, convenient to Hamilton and South Ferries and to the water front, for sale on liberal terms to close an estate.
Apply to C. KELSEY, No. 162 Columbia st., Brooklyn, or to B. A. HEGEMAN, Executor, No. 26 Exchange place, New-York.

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ORANGE, N. J.—COUNTRY HOUSES, LANDS, and village lots for sale; a great variety. Also, furnished and unfurnished houses to let for season or year, by WALTER R. SMITH, formerly Blackwell & Smith, Orange, corner of Main and Cone sts.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

WHEATLAND
Rail Mills and Blast Furnaces
FOR SALE.

WE WILL OFFER AT AUCTION, ON THE PREMISES,
On Thursday, Jan. 13, 1876,
AT 1 O'CLOCK P. M.,

The above-named valuable property, located at Wheatland, Mercer County, Penn., on the line of the Erie and Pittsburg Railroad, and having track connection with A. and G. W. R. R.

The property consists of four blast furnaces, capable of producing 600 tons of pig metal weekly; one rail mill nearly new, with all modern improvements, and capable of producing 1,000 tons of rails weekly; some 220 dwellings, consisting of tenant-houses, managers' and clerks' houses, brick and frame offices, carpenter shop, store, locomotive house, ice house, stables, &c.; together with about 325 acres of land, three-quarters of a mile of railroad track, switch, siding, &c. The furnaces and rail mills are in good order and ready for immediate use, and the buildings in good condition, the larger portion of them having been but recently erected.

Also, 800 shares, being two-thirds interest of

Shenango Coal Company Stock,

Together with certain leases and royalties on coal in mines now being operated by said company, a detailed description of which will be furnished on application.

TERMS—One-half cash, $10,000 of which (either in cash or approved certified check) will be required at time of sale, remainder of cash payment on tender of deed; balance in one, two, and three years, with interest, and secured by bond and close mortgage, with acire facias clause, on the premises.

For pamphlet, giving full detailed description of Wheatland property, buildings, machinery, furnaces, &c., address
E. J. ANDERSON,
JOHN J. SPEAKMAN,
H. W. OLIVER, Jr.,
Trustees in Bankruptcy of J. T. & C. A. Wood, No. 114 Water st., Pittsburg.
JOHN D. BAILEY, Auctioneer.

DWELLINGS TO LET.

FOR RENT.—TWO THREE-STORY, HIGH-STOOP houses, $800 each; three four-story, high-stoop, brown-stone, $1,500; two four-story, high-stoop, brown-stone, on Madison av., $1,500, $1,800; five superbly finished and admirably located brown-stone residences, $2,000, $2,500, $3,000, $6,000. Apply at the Office of the North America Life Insurance Company, Nos. 17 and 19 Warren st., or at the office in new block, 60th st., near Madison av. KINGMAN P. PAGE.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

OFFICES TO LET
IN THE
TIMES BUILDING.
ON THE SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS.

These rooms are desirably located, are well lighted, in good order, and will be partitioned to suit tenants.
Apply to
GEORGE JONES,
Times Office.

TO LET—WITH STEAM POWER, FOURTH FLOOR, Nos. 188 and 190 West Houston st. Inquire on premises.

LEGAL NOTICES.

NEW-YORK SUPREME COURT—COUNTY OF KINGS.—THE ILLINOIS, MISSOURI AND TEXAS RAILWAY COMPANY, Plaintiff, against JAMES McKAYE, Defendant.—Summons—(br relief.—(Com. not ser.)—To the defendant above-named: You are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint in this action, which will be filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, at the new Court-house in the City of Brooklyn, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscribers, at their office, No. 20 Nassau street, in the City of New-York, within twenty days after the service of this summons on you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the said complaint within the time aforesaid, the plaintiff in this action will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the complaint.—Dated New-York, Nov. 5, 1875.
BARRETT, REDFIELD & HILL,
Plaintiff's Attorneys, No. 20 Nassau st.
New-York City.

The complaint in the above-entitled action was duly filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, in the Court-house in the City of Brooklyn, on the 6th day of November, 1875.
BARRETT, REDFIELD & HILL,
Plaintiff's Attorneys.
d4-law6w3

LOST AND FOUND.

FOUND—ON DEC. 28, 52D ST., A POCKET-BOOK. The owner will obtain it by addressing A. HORAN, No. 429 East 17th st.

LOST—WEDNESDAY EVENING, ROLL OF LAW papers. Finder will be rewarded by leaving them with GEO. R. JAQUES, 70 Astor House, Notary Public.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

"WAUKENPHAST."

We have received a small importation of these POPULAR ENGLISH SHOES FOR GENTLEMEN.
CANTRELL,
No. 241 4th av.

MARBLE MANTELS.

MARBLE AND MARBLEIZED MANTELS, NEW DESIGNS, from $12 upward; also, monumental work at greatly reduced prices. Marble turning for the trade. A. KLABER, No. 134 East 18th st.

STEWART'S NEW SLATE MANTELS, INLAID with tiles; also, marble and wood mantels, elegant designs; prices very low. No. 220 West 23d st.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

THE UP-TOWN OFFICE OF THE TIMES.

The up-town office of THE TIMES is located at
No. 1,257 Broadway, bet. 31st and 32d sts.
Open daily, Sundays included, from 4 A. M. to 9 P. M. Subscriptions received, and copies of THE TIMES for sale.
ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED UNTIL 9 P. M.

HORSE BLANKETS, SLEIGH BELLS, and carriage robes in large stock.
HARMER, HAYS & CO., No. 72 Beekman st.

TO RENT—PART OF A PRIVATE STABLE. APPLY at No. 122 West 18th st.

INSTRUCTION.

Collegiate Institute,
No. 40 Washington Square, New-York City.
(Location delightful and easy of access.)
DR. GEO. W. CLARKE, Principal, prepares pupils of all ages for business or college.
Thirty-third year. Now open.

CHARLIER INSTITUTE.
Central Park and 6th av. Boarding and Day School for Boys and Young Men of Seven to Twenty. New building unsurpassed for location, ventilation, interior arrangements. Prospectus sent on application.

PENNSYLVANIA MILITARY ACADEMY, CHESTER, PENN.—Reopens Jan. 5.; thorough instruction in civil and mining engineering, the classics, and English branches. For circulars apply to O. M. BOGART, No. 3 Nassau st., New-York, or to Col. THEO. HYATT, President P. M. A.

A FEW YOUNG LADIES, BETWEEN FOURteen and eighteen, may share with my daughters the well tested advantages of class-study under best instruction in our pleasant home; best references given and required. Address Mrs. J. E. GAVIT, Stockbridge, Mass.

LEE'S HOME INSTITUTE AT NYACK, ON THE HUDSON.—Both sexes, academic and primary; central yet retired; accommodations for twenty only; expenses, $280; no extras; 28 miles from New-York. Mr. and Mrs. D. P. LEE, Principals.

ELMIRA FEMALE COLLEGE.—A COLLEGE of the highest rank for well-prepared students. It has superior advantages for instruction in music and art; terms moderate. Send for catalogue to A. W. COWLES, D.D., Elmira, N.Y. Next season begins Feb. 2.

MRS. PARKS' BOARDING AND DAY School, New-Brunswick, N. J. Pupils charged from time of entrance.

DREW LADIES' SEMINARY, CARMEL, N. Y.—Healthful, homelike; a school for earnest work. Spring session opens Feb. 16. GEO. C. SMITH, A.M.

THE IRVING INSTITUTE, TARRYTOWN-on-Hudson, offers unusual advantages for boys. Reopens Sept. 14. ARMAGNAC & ROWE, Principals.

MRS. JONSON AND MISS JONES' ENGLISH, French, and German boarding and day school for young ladies and children. No. 13 East 31st st.

TEACHERS.

MOTHERS DESIRING ACCOMPLISHED governesses for their daughters, can find them through Amer. School Institute, No. 14 Bond st.
J. W. SCHERMERHORN, A. M., Actuary.

MISS C. HANDY, TEACHER OF ARTICULATION to deaf mutes by the visible speech method. No. 86 Irving place.

PROF. C. DE LA VERGNE, TEACHER OF French, takes classes or single pupils. Address No. 30 West 27th st., New-York.

BANKRUPT NOTICES.

DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of WILLIAM D. MORGAN, CHARLES L. MORGAN, and ALFRED P. WALCOTT, bankrupts.—In Bankruptcy.—No. 4,966.—Notice is hereby given to the bankrupts and to all creditors who are named in the schedules filed by said bankrupts, and all creditors who have proved their debts and all other persons interested, pursuant to an order of this court, dated December 13, 1875, that, upon my petition as Assignee of the estate of the above-named bankrupts, for direction to compound and settle the controversy between me as Assignee, and Daniel Meyer, a debtor to said estate, by the receipt of $3,000 in full satisfaction of all claims and demands against said Meyer, a hearing of the matters prayed for in said petition will be had at a meeting, to be held at the office of Edgar Ketchum, Esq., Register in Bankruptcy, at his office, No. 129 Fulton street, in the City of New-York, the 12th day of January, 1876, at 12 o'clock, noon, and you are required to then and there show cause, if any there be, why an order should not be passed by the court upon said petition authorizing such act on my part as Assignee, to wit: in consideration of the payment to me by said Daniel Meyer of the sum of three thousand dollars to release and discharge said Meyer of and from all claims and demands whatsoever vested in or belonging to said estate; and at said time and place proofs as to said matter will be taken by said Register.
ANTHONY THOMAS, Assignee.
TRACY, OLMSTEAD & TRACY, Solicitors and Counsel for the Assignee, No. 50 Wall street, New-York City.

SURROGATE NOTICES.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against JOHN HARPER, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscribers, at their place of business, (Harper & Bros., publishers,) No. 331 Pearl street, in the City of New-York, on or before the thirtieth day of May next.—Dated New-York, the 27th day of November, 1875. JOHN W. HARPER,
JOSEPH A. HARPER,
Executors.
P. W. OSTRANDER, Proctor for Executors, No. 25 Pine st., N. Y. n27law6m8

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against CATHERINE A. MORRIS, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscribers, at their place of business, No. 331 Pearl street, in the City of New-York, on or before the thirtieth day of May next.—Dated New-York, the 27th day of November, 1875. JOHN W. HARPER,
JOSEPH A. HARPER,
Executors.
P. W. OSTRANDER, Proctor for Executors, No. 25 Pine st., N. Y. n27law6m8

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against CATHERINE WILKINS, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at his place of business, No. 182 Grand street, in the City of New-York, on or before the fifteenth day of January next.—Dated New-York, the fourth day of July, 1875.
jy10-law6m8* S. V. R. CRUGER, Executor.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS.

Sealed proposals will be received until Feb. 1, 1876, by the Trustees of the New-York and Brooklyn Bridge, at their office, No. 21 Water st., Brooklyn, N. Y., for the manufacture and delivery of 122 tons of cast-steel wire rope, required for the erection of the temporary foot-bridge, cradle cables, and other appliances necessary for the construction of the main cables of the East River Suspension Bridge.
Printed specifications, together with any other information in regard to the rope, may be obtained from the Secretary of the board, or of the Chief Engineer, W. A. ROEBLING.

FINANCIAL.

INVESTMENTS
FOR JANUARY DIVIDENDS,
CITY AND COUNTY BONDS,

We offer a good line of Municipal bonds, bearing seven and eight per cent., at very desirable prices. We have also some choice ten (10) per cent. bonds. Full particulars furnished on application.
A. W. BRASLER & CO.,
No. 12 Wall st., New-York.
N. B.—We deal especially in first-class bonds of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, and Kansas.

ILLINOIS REGISTERED
10 PER CENT. BONDS
FOR SALE BY
PERKINS, LIVINGSTON, POST & CO.

WOOD & DAVIS,
BANKERS,
NO. 31 PINE ST., NEW-YORK.
GOVERNMENT BONDS; STATE, MUNICIPAL, RAILROAD SECURITIES, AND GOLD,
BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION.
C. D. WOOD. S. D. DAVIS.

DEFAULTED RAILROAD BONDS
BOUGHT AND SOLD
by the old-established Stock and Bond House of
ALBERT H. NICOLAY & CO.,
NO. 43 PINE ST., NEW-YORK.

NORTH CHICAGO.
LINCOLN PARK
7 PER CENT. BONDS.

Population	75,000
Assessed value in 1874	$26,152,227
Total bonded debt	$900,000

In view of the limited amount of these bonds remaining unsold, the Commissioners have authorized us to advance the price to 97½ and accrued interest.
PERKINS, LIVINGSTON, POST & CO.,
No. 59 Liberty st.

CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE AND ST. PAUL RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 68 William st., New-York, Dec. 30, 1875.

TO THE HOLDERS OF THE LA CROSSE and Milwaukee Railroad Company, Eastern Division, eight per cent. Extended Bonds: Notice is hereby given, in pursuance of the terms of the extension, that the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company will take up said bonds, at par and accrued interest, on their presentation at the office of said company, No. 68 William st., in the City of New-York, on or after the 3d day of January next; and that interest on said bonds will cease on May 1, 1876.
JULIUS WADSWORTH, Vice President.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE season, SAMUEL R. MACLEAN, Banker and Dealer in Investment Securities, Commercial Bills, Exchanges, &c., No. 90 Broadway, corner Wall st., New-York.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE in all PARTS of the WORLD.

FINANCIAL.

THE
MERCANTILE TRUST COMPANY,
EQUITABLE BUILDING, 120 BROADWAY, N. Y.
CAPITAL, $2,000,000.

THIS COMPANY PAYS SEVEN PER CENT. INTEREST.
IT SECURES EVERY INVESTMENT BY A FIRST MORTGAGE ON IMPROVED REAL ESTATE.
IT AFFORDS A SAFE AND TRUSTWORTHY MODE OF INVESTMENT FOR EXECUTORS AND TRUSTEES.

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VERMILYE & CO.
BANKERS
16 and 18 Nassau st., New-York.

DEALERS IN ALL ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.
NEW-YORK CITY
AND BROOKLYN BONDS.
BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION
RAILWAY STOCKS, BONDS, AND GOLD.

INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

WASH'N R. VERMILYE,	DONALD MACKAY
JAS. A. TROWBRIDGE	LATHAM A. FISH

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

SUNDAY EDITION.

THE BEST OF ALL THE SUNDAY JOURNALS.

Large and constantly increasing circulation, and best advertising medium in New-York.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Ninth National Bank at New-York, in the State of New-York, at the close of business, Dec. 17, 1875:

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	$4,767,572 38
Overdrafts	3,601 48
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	705,000 00
U. S. Bonds on hand	2,500 00
Other stocks, bonds, and mortgages	272,750 00
Due from National Banks	753,716 45
Due from State Banks and bankers	132,438 09
Banking house	500,000 00
Current expenses and taxes paid	47,625 21
Premiums paid	74,687 51
Checks and other cash items	2,847 97
Exchanges	610,550 63
Bills of National Banks	10,140 00
Fractional currency (including nickels)	13,449 29
Specie (including gold Treasury notes	89,827 00
Legal Tender notes	616,254 00
U. S. certificates of deposit for legal tenders	535,000 00
Five per cent. redemption fund	31,725 00
Due from U. S. Treasury other than 5 per cent. fund	17,000 00
Total	$9,186,718 37

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in	$1,500,000 00
Surplus fund	240,000 00
Other undivided profits	23,915 07
National Bank notes outstanding	624,500 00
Individual deposits subject to check	2,444,091 82
Demand certificates of deposit	22,913 95
Certified checks	153,960 46
Cashier's checks	17,174 10
Due to National Banks	2,231,787 89
Due to State Banks and bankers	1,902,879 11
Total	$9,186,718 37

STATE OF NEW-YORK, COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, ss:—I, H. Nazro, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
H. H. NAZRO, Cashier.
STATE OF NEW-YORK, COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, ss:—Sworn and subscribed before me this 31st day of December, 1875.
Correct—Attest:
J. Q. PREBLE,
GARDNER R. COLBY, } Directors.
JOHN T. HILL.

FIRST-CLASS INVESTMENT BONDS.

BROOKLYN CITY 7S, DUE IN 1904.
BUFFALO CITY 7S, DUE IN 1890.
ROCHESTER CITY 7S, DUE IN 1903.
ELIZABETH CITY, N. J., 7S, DUE IN 1895.
CINCINNATI 7.30S, DUE IN 1903.

ALSO, TOWN BONDS.

EASTCHESTER 7S, DUE IN 1883.
WESTCHESTER 7S, DUE IN 1885.
WEST FARMS 7S, DUE IN 1888.

FOR SALE BY
DANIEL A. MORAN,
NO. 40 WALL ST.

SAFE,
SECURE
INVESTMENT.
SEVEN PER CENT. BONDS
OF
JERSEY CITY,
(Coupon or registered.)
PAYABLE IN THIRTY YEARS.
For sale by
C. ZABRISKIE,
No. 125 Washington st., Jersey City.
(Fleming's Building.)

ELECTIONS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of the Fairchance Iron Company, of Fairchance, Penn., for the election of Directors, will be held at the office of the Company, at the office of Messrs. Perkins, Livingston, Post & Co., No. 59 Liberty st., in the City of New-York, on WEDNESDAY, the 12th day of January, 1876, at 1 P. M.
NEW-YORK, 20th December, 1875.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, New-York, Dec. 10, 1875.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this Bank for election of Directors and inspectors of Election for the ensuing year will be held, at their banking-rooms, on TUESDAY, 11th January, 1876. Polls will open at 12 M. and close at 1 P. M.
ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK, New-York, Dec. 6, 1875.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this bank for the election of eleven Directors to serve the ensuing year, will be held at the banking-house, TUESDAY, Jan. 11, 1876. Polls open from 12 M. till 1 P. M. By order of the Board.
C. N. BANTA, Cashier.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK, New-York, Dec. 17, 1875.

AN ELECTION F

SHIPPING.

CUNARD LINE B. & N. A. R. M. S. P. CO.

NOTICE.

With the view of diminishing the chances of collision, the steamers of this line take a specified course for all seasons of the year.

On the outward passage from Queenstown to New-York or Boston, crossing meridian of 50 at 43 latitude, or nothing to the north of 43.

On the homeward passage, crossing the meridian of 50 at 42, or nothing to the north of 42.

FROM NEW-YORK FOR LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN.

PARTHIA.....WED. Jan. 5 JAVA.....WED. Jan. 19
ALGERIA.....WED. Jan. 12 *RUSSIA.....WED. Jan. 26

Steamers marked * do not carry steerage passengers. Cabin passage, $30, $100, and $180, gold, according to accommodation. Return tickets on favorable terms. Steerage tickets to and from all parts of Europe at very low rates. Freight and passage office, No. 4 Bowling green. CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

WHITE STAR LINE.

FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL, CARRYING UNITED STATES MAIL.

The steamers of this line take the Lane route recommended by Lieut. Maury, United States Navy, from New-York to Queenstown, and go south of the Banks all the year round.

CELTIC.....SATURDAY, Jan. 8, at 2 P. M.
ADRIATIC.....SATURDAY, Jan. 15, at 8 A. M.
BALTIC.....SATURDAY, Jan. 22, at 2 P. M.
REPUBLIC.....SATURDAY, Jan. 29, at 7 A. M.

From White Star Dock, Pier No. 52 North River.

These steamers are uniform in size and unsurpassed in appointments. The saloon, staterooms, smoking and bath rooms are amidships where the noise and motion are least, affording a degree of comfort hitherto unattainable at sea.

Rates—Saloon, $80, $90, and $100, gold; return tickets on favorable terms. Steerage, $28.

For inspection of plans and other information apply at the Company's offices, No. 37 Broadway, New-York.
R. J. CORTIS, Agent.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.

THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAMERS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, VIA PLYMOUTH.

The splendid vessels on this favorite route for the Continent (being more southerly than any other,) will sail from Pier No. 50 North River, as follows:

FRANCE, Trudelle.....Saturday, Jan. 8
LABRADOR, Senglier.....Saturday Jan. 22
*PEREIRE, Daure.....Saturday, Feb. 5

PRICE OF PASSAGE IN GOLD, (including wine,) first cabin, $110 to $120, according to accommodation. Second cabin, $72 third, $40. Return tickets at reduced rates. Steerage, $26, with superior accommodation, including all messing, but without extra charge. Steamers marked thus * do not carry steerage passengers. LOUIS DE BEBIAN, Agent, 55 Broadway.

NATIONAL LINE.

From Piers Nos. 44 and 47 North River.

FOR LONDON DIRECT.

CANADA.....TUESDAY, Jan. 4, 9 A. M.
GREECE.....WEDNESDAY, Jan. 12, 3 P. M.

FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

Helvetia, Jan. 8, 1:30 P. M. (8) Min, Jan. 22, 1 P. M.
The Queen, Jan. 15, 8 A. M.

Cabin passage, $80 and $70, currency. Steerage at greatly reduced price. Return tickets at reduced rates. Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool at the lowest rates. Apply at the company's office, No. 69 Broadway.
F. W. J. HURST. Manager.

RED STAR LINE.

Appointed to carry the Belgian and United States mails. The following steamers are appointed to sail
FOR ANTWERP.

From Philadelphia. From New-York.
VADERLAND.....Jan. 15 STATE OF NEVADA...Jan. 4
NEDERLAND.....Feb. 9 SWITZERLAND...Jan. 28
FROM ANTWERP.
For Philadelphia. For New-York.
NEDERLAND.....Jan. 16 SWITZERLAND.....Feb. 9
VADERLAND.....Feb. 9 STATE OF NEVADA..Jan. 26

PRICES OF PASSAGE IN CURRENCY.

First Cabin, $90; Second Cabin, $60.

Steerage tickets to and from all points at the lowest rates.

Passenger accommodations for all classes unsurpassed.

For passage, rates of freight, and other information apply to
PETER WRIGHT & SONS, General Agents,
No. 307 Walnut st., Philadelphia.

STAR BALL LINE.

United States and Brazil Mail Steam-ships.

Sailing regularly every month from
WATSON'S WHARF, BROOKLYN, N. Y.,

For Para, Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio Janeiro,

Calling at ST. JOHN'S, PORTO RICO,
NELLIE MARTIN, 3,000 tons.....Jan. 23, at 1 P. M.
JOHN BRAMALL, 2,500 tons.....Feb.
WALKER, 2,500 tons.....March

When 23d falls on Sunday steamers sail the day previous.

These steamers are perfectly new, with all the latest improvements, having first-class passenger accommodations.

For freight and passage at reduced rates apply to
J. S. TUCKER & CO., Agents, No. 54 Pine st.

INMAN LINE.

Royal Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows:

FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

CITY OF CHESTER...Tuesday, Jan. 4, 1876, at 10 A. M.
CITY OF MONTREAL.....Saturday, Jan. 8, at 2 P. M.
CITY OF NEW-YORK.....Saturday, Jan. 15, at 8 A. M.
CITY OF RICHMOND.....Saturday, Jan. 22, at 2 P. M.
CITY OF BROOKLYN.....Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 7 A. M.

and each succeeding Saturday from Pier No. 45 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

CABIN.....$60, $80 and $100, Gold
STEERAGE.....$28, Currency.

Drafts issued at low rates.

For cabin passage and general business apply at the company's office, No. 15 Broadway.

For steerage passage at No. 33 Broadway, or Pier No. 45 North River. JOHN G. DALE, Agent.

GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE.

SAILING FROM PIER NO. 29 NORTH RIVER, WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS at 3 P. M.

FOR CHARLESTON, S. C., FLORIDA, THE SOUTH, AND SOUTH-WEST.

CITY OF ATLANTA.....SATURDAY.....JAN. 1
GEORGIA.....WEDNESDAY.....JAN. 5

SUPERIOR PASSENGER ACCOMMODATIONS.

Insurance to destination one-half or one per cent.

Goods forwarded free of commission.

Steerage passengers furnished with through tickets and bills of lading issued and signed at the office of
JAMES W. QUINTARD & CO., Agents,
No. 177 West st., corner Warren.
Or W. P. CLYDE & CO., No. 6 Bowling green.
Or BENTLEY D. HASELL, General Agent.
Great Southern Freight Line, 317 Broadway.

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SUNDAY EDITION.

THE BEST OF ALL THE SUNDAY JOURNALS.

Large and constantly increasing circulation, and best advertising medium in New-York.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

(Via Queenstown.)

CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL.

TUESDAY.

Leaving Pier No. 46 North River as follows:

NEVADA.....Jan. 4, at 10 A. M.
IDAHO.....Jan. 18, at 10 A. M.
DAKOTA.....Jan. 25, at 3 P. M.
WISCONSIN.....Feb. 1, at 9:30 A. M.
WYOMING.....Feb. 8, at 3 P. M.

RATES FOR PASSENGERS REDUCED.

Steerage, $26; intermediate, $40; cabin, $65 to $80, according to stateroom. Steerage offices, No. 29 Broadway. General offices, No. 63 Wall st.

WILLIAMS & GUION.

ANCHOR LINE. CARRYING U. S. MAIL.

NEW-YORK AND GLASGOW.

CALIFORNIA.....SATURDAY, Jan. 1, at 8 A. M.
AUSTRALIA.....SATURDAY, Jan. 8, at 1 P. M.

NEW-YORK TO GLASGOW OR LIVERPOOL OR LONDONDERRY.

Cabin passage, $65, $75, and $80, currency.
Intermediate, $35; Steerage, $28.
Company's offices, No. 7 Bowling green.
HENDERSON BROTHERS, Agents.

NORTH GERMAN LLOYD.

STEAM-SHIP LINE BETWEEN NEW-YORK, SOUTHAMPTON, AND BREMEN.

Company's Pier, foot of 2d st., Hoboken.

SALIER.....Thurs., Jan. 6 | HERMANN.....Sat., Jan. 15
SOCRATES.....Sat., Jan. 8 | HOHENSTAUFFEN.Jan. 22

RATES OF PASSAGE FROM NEW-YORK TO SOUTHAMPTON, HAVRE, OR BREMEN.

First cabin.....$100 gold
Second cabin.....60 gold
Steerage.....30 currency

Return tickets at reduced rates. Prepaid steerage certificates, $32 currency. For freight or passage apply to OELRICHS & CO., No. 2 Bowling green.

STATE LINE.

NEW-YORK TO GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, DUBLIN, BELFAST, AND LONDONDERRY.

These first-class full-powered steamers will sail from Eagle Pier, Hoboken Ferry, New-Jersey, as follows:

STATE OF VIRGINIA.....Thursday, Dec. 30
STATE OF INDIANA.....Thursday, Jan. 13
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.....Thursday, Jan. 27

And every alternate Thursday thereafter. First cabin, $90, $70, and $80; return tickets, $150. Second cabin, $50; return tickets, $90. Steerage at lowest rates.

Apply to AUSTIN BALDWIN & CO., Agents,
No. 72 Broadway, New-York.

Steerage office No. 45 Broadway.

NEW-YORK AND HAVANA DIRECT MAIL LINE.

These first-class steam-ships sail regularly at 3 P. M. from Pier No. 13 North River, as follows:

COLUMBUS.....TUESDAY, Jan. 4
CHALMETTE CITY.....THURSDAY, Jan. 13

Accommodations unsurpassed. For freight or passage apply to WM. P. CLYDE & CO., No. 6 Bowling green; MCKELLER, LULING & CO., Agents in Havana.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.,

THE FLORIDA PORTS,
AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.

GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE, CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.

FOUR STEAM-SHIPS PER WEEK,
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, AND SATURDAYS.

MAGNOLIA, Capt. HAZARD, SATURDAY, Jan. 1, from Pier No. 43 North River, at 12 M.
WILLIAM R. GARRISON, Agent, No. 5 Bowling green.

TYBEE, Capt. HOLMES, SATURDAY, Jan. 1, from Pier No. 12 North River, at 12 M.
E. LOWDEN, Agent, No. 93 West st.

CLEOPATRA, Capt. BUCKLEY, TUESDAY, Jan. 4, from Pier No. 16 East River, at 3 P. M.
MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents, No. 62 South st.

GENERAL BARNES, Capt. CHESEMAN, THURSDAY, Jan. 6, from Pier No. 43 North River, at 3 P. M.
WILLIAM R. GARRISON, Agent, No. 5 Bowling green.

Insurance on this line ONE-HALF PER CENT. Superior accommodations for passengers.

Through rates and bills of lading, in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.

Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad and Florida steamers.
GEORGE YONGE.
Agent Central Railroad of Georgia, No. 409 Broadway.

SHIPPING.

AMERICAN LINE.

Weekly Mail Steam-ship service between PHILADELPHIA and LIVERPOOL, Calling at QUEENSTOWN.

Sailing every THURSDAY from Philadelphia, and Sailing every WEDNESDAY, from Liverpool.

The following steamers are appointed to sail from Philadelphia:

*LORD CLIVE.....Jan. 13 *KENILWORTH....Jan. 22
OHIO.....Jan. 6 INDIANA.....Jan. 27
PENNSYLVANIA....Jan. 15 ILLINOIS.....Feb. 3

PRICE OF PASSAGE IN CURRENCY:

Cabin, $75 to $100, according to location.

Steerage and intermediate tickets to and from all points at the lowest rates.

Steamers marked with a star do not carry intermediate.

Passenger accommodations for all classes unsurpassed.

For passage, rates of freight, and other information apply to
PETER WRIGHT & SONS, General Agents,
No. 307 Walnut st., Philadelphia.
GEO. W. COLTON, No. 42 Broad st., N. Y.

FLORIDA LINE.

FROM PIER NO. 29 NORTH RIVER,

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY, AT 3 P. M.

INSURANCE TO DESTINATION ONE-HALF PER CENT.

GREAT REDUCTION IN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER RATES.

ALWAYS AS LOW AS BY OTHER LINES, AND NO DETENTIONS.

Goods loaded on steamer when shipped.

Mark goods care RAVENEL & CO., Charleston, S. C.

For rates of freight or passage apply to
J. W. QUINTARD & CO., No. 177 West st.
Or to BENTLEY D. HASELL, No. 317 Broadway.

ATLAS MAIL LINE.

BI-MONTHLY SERVICE TO JAMAICA, HAYTI, COLOMBIA, and ASPINWALL, and to PANAMA and SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS (via Aspinwall.) First-class, full-powered iron-screw steamers, from Pier No. 51, North River:

FOR KINGSTON, AUX CAYES, and JACMEL:

CLARIBEL.....Jan. 8.

FOR PORT-AU-PRINCE, COLOMBIA, ASPINWALL, ISTHMUS OF PANAMA, and SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS (via Aspinwall):

AND ES.....About Jan. 12.
ALPS.....Jan. 19.

Superior first-class passenger accommodation.

PIM, FORWOOD & CO., Agents, No. 56 Wall st.

PACIFIC MAIL S. S. LINE.

FOR CALIFORNIA, JAPAN, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, NEW-ZEALAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA, &c.

Sailing from Pier foot of Canal st., North River.

FOR ASPINWALL.

S. S. ACAPULCO.....SATURDAY, Jan. 15, at 12 noon, Connecting for all CENTRAL AMERICAN and SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO JAPAN AND CHINA.
S. S. CITY OF PEKING.....Jan. 1.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW-ZEALAND, via HONOLULU, S. I.

S. S. ——————MONDAY, Jan. 3, and every four weeks thereafter.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO VICTORIA, PORT TOWNSEND, TACOMA, PORTLAND, &c., &c.

On the 10th, 20th, and 30th of every month.

For freight or passage apply at foot of Canal st., North River.
H. J. SULLAY, Superintendent.

NEW-YORK, HAVANA AND MEXICAN MAIL S. S. LINE.

Steamers leave Pier No. 3 North River at 3 P. M.:

FOR HAVANA DIRECT.

CITY OF NEW-YORK.....Thursday, Jan. 6
CITY OF HAVANA.....Tuesday, Jan. 18
CITY OF VERA CRUZ.....Thursday, Jan. 20

FOR VERA CRUZ AND NEW-ORLEANS, Calling at HAVANA, PROGRESO, CAMPEACHY, TUSPAN, and TAMPICO

CITY OF HAVANA.....Tuesday, Jan. 18
CITY OF MERIDA.....Tuesday, Feb. 8

For freight or passage apply to
F. ALEXANDER & SONS, Nos. 31 and 33 Broadway.

Steamers will leave New-Orleans Jan. 22 and Feb. 12 for Vera Cruz and all the above ports.

WEEKLY FLORIDA LINE.

For Port Royal, S. C.; Fernandina, Fla.; Brunswick, Ga., the favorite and well-known steamer HUNTSVILLE, Chester, Master, having superior accommodations for passengers, will sail THURSDAY, Dec. 30, from Pier No. 18 East River, at 3 P. M., for above ports, making connections with all points South and South-west, via Port Royal, the Florida and Branswick Railroads. First-class passage to Fernandina.....$20 00
First-class passage to Jacksonville.....22 00
First-class passage to Augusta.....20 00
First-class to Albany.....22 50

Through tickets issued to all points South and South-West.

For freight or passage, apply to
HERM. GELPCKE,
No. 5 William st.

WILSON LINE FOR SOUTHAMPTON AND HULL.

Sailing from Pier No. 53 North River:

BINDOO.....Jan. 8 COLOMBO.....Feb. 5
NAVARINO.....Jan. 22 OTHELLO.....Feb. 19

First cabin, $70, currency; second cabin, $40, currency; excursion tickets on very favorable terms. Through tickets issued to Continental and Baltic ports. Apply for full particulars to CHARLES L. WRIGHT & CO., No. 56 South st.

STEAMBOATS.

PROVIDENCE AND STONINGTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND BOSTON.

STONINGTON LINE,
FOR PROVIDENCE NEWPORT, AND BOSTON.

The elegant steamers RHODE ISLAND, NARRAGANSETT, and STONINGTON leave Pier No. 38 North River, foot of Jay st., daily, (except Sundays,) at 4:30 P. M. Through tickets to principal New-England points at railroad depots and ticket offices. State-rooms secured at office of Westcott Express Company, and at No. 319 Broadway.

PROVIDENCE LINE, (direct.)

Steam-ships ELECTRA and GALATEA leave Pier No. 27 North River, foot of Robinson st., daily, (except Sundays,) at 4 P. M. Direct connection to Worcester and points beyond. Freight to via either line taken at lowest rates. D. S. BABCOCK, President.
L. W. FILKINS, General Passenger Agent.

FOR NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD, AND THE NORTH.—Steamers leave Peck slip for New-Haven at 3 and 11 P. M., connecting with road.

FOR BRIDGEPORT AND ALL POINTS ON the Housatonic and Naugatuck Railroad.—Fare, $1. Steamers leave Catharine-slip at 11:30 A. M.

RAILROADS.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

SUNDAY EDITION.

THE BEST OF ALL THE SUNDAY JOURNALS.

Large and constantly increasing circulation, and best advertising medium in New-York.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF NEW-JERSEY.

ALLENTOWN LINE TO THE WEST.

Passenger and freight station in New-York, foot of Liberty st. Connects at Somerville with South Branch Railroad; at Hampton Junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad; at Phillipsburg, with Lehigh and Susquehanna Division; also with Lehigh Valley Railroad. Direct line to Harrisburg, Pittsburg, and the West; also to Central Pennsylvania and New-York State.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT.

Commencing Dec. 1, 1875.—Leave New-York as follows:

5:30 A. M.—NEWS TRAIN for Easton, Belvidere, Bethlehem, Bath, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Tamanend, Wilkesbarre, Pottsville, Scranton, &c.

6:15 A. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

7:45 A. M.—Way Train for Flemington and Easton, connects at Junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.

9:00 A. M.—MORNING EXPRESS, Daily, (except Sundays,) for Easton, Allentown, Harrisburg, and the West. Connects at Easton for Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Towanda, Wilkesbarre, Pottsville, Scranton, Danville, Williamsport, &c.

10:15 A. M.—Way Train for Somerville and Flemington.

1 P. M.—EXPRESS for Flemington, Easton, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Mahanoy City, Hazleton, Wilkesbarre, Reading, Columbia, Lancaster, Ephrata, Pottsville, Harrisburg, &c.

2:45 P. M.—EXPRESS for Easton, Belvidere, Bath, Mauch Chunk, Wilkesbarre, and Scranton.

3:30 P. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

4:00 P. M.—Way Train for Easton, Allentown, and Mauch Chunk. Connects at Junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.

4:30 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville and Flemington.

5:00 P. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

5:15 P. M.—EVENING EXPRESS, daily, for Easton, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Wilkesbarre, Towanda, Reading, and Harrisburg.

5:30 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville.

6:00 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville.

6:30 P. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

7:00 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville.

8:30 P. M.—For Easton.

9:30 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville.

12:00 P. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

For Elizabeth at 5:30, 6:15, 6:35, 7:00, 7:30, 7:45 8:00, 8:45, 9:00, 9:30, 10:15, 11:15, A. M.; 12:00 M. 12:45, 1:00, 2:00, 2:45, 3:30, 3:50, 3:45, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30 4:45, 5:00, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6:00, 6:15, 6:30, 7:00, 7:40 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:15, 12:00 P. M.

R. E. RICKER, Superintendent and Engineer.
H. P. BALDWIN, General Passenger Agent.

ERIE RAILWAY.

Winter Arrangement of through trains, December, 1875, from Chambers Street Depot. (For 23d st. see note below.)

9:00 A. M., daily, except Sundays, Cincinnati and Chicago Day Express, Drawing-room coaches to Buffalo and sleeping coaches to Cincinnati and Detroit. Sleeping coaches to Chicago.

10:45 A. M., daily, except Sundays, Express Mail for Buffalo and Niagara Falls. Sleeping coach to Buffalo.

7:00 P. M., daily, Pacific Express to the West. Sleeping coaches through to Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Cincinnati, and Chicago without change. Hotel dining coaches to Cleveland and Chicago.

7:00 P. M., except Sundays, Western Emigrant train.

Above trains leave Twenty-third Street Ferry at 8:45 and 10:15 A. M., and 6:45 P. M.

For local trains, see time-tables and cards in hotels and depots.

JNO. N. ABBOTT, General Passenger Agent.

NEW-YORK CENTRAL AND HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.

—After Jan. 1, 1876, through trains will leave Grand Central Depot:

8:00 A. M., Chicago and Northern Express, with drawing-room cars through to Rochester.

10:30 A. M., special Chicago Express, with drawing-room cars to Rochester, and Buffalo.

11:00 A. M., Northern and Western Express.

4:00 P. M., Montreal Express, with sleeping cars from New-York to St. Albans, arriving at Montreal at 5:50 A. M.

6:00 P. M., Express, with sleeping cars, for Watertown and Canandaigua. Also, for Montreal via Plattsburg.

8:00 P. M., Pacific Express, daily, with sleeping cars for Rochester, Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Cleveland and Cincinnati; also for Chicago, via both L. S. and M. C. Railroads.

11:00 P. M., Express, with sleeping cars, for Albany and Troy. Way trains as per local Time Table.

C. H. KENDRICK, General Passenger Agent.

WICKFORD RAILROAD ROUTE TO NEWPORT, R. I.

—Passengers for this line take 8:05 A. M. and 1 P. M. express trains from Grand Central Depot, arriving at 4:20 and 8:20 P. M.

THEODORE WARREN, Supt.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

SUNDAY EDITION.

THE BEST OF ALL THE SUNDAY JOURNALS.

Large and constantly increasing circulation, and best advertising medium in New-York.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES, corner 9th av. and 28th st., on Sunday, at the 10:30 A. M. service, Rev. D. L. Schwartz, of Albany, will preach. A reunion service, under the auspices of the Young People's Missionary Association, will be held at 7:30 P. M., at which Rev. Dr. Dix, Rector of Trinity Church, is expected to be present, the sermon being delivered by Rev. George Jarvis Geer, D.D., Rector of St. Timothy's Church, and addresses by Rev. Dr. Howland and Rev. D. L. Schwartz.

All friends and former members of the Parish are cordially invited to be present at this service.

ASSOCIATION HALL.

Rev. CHARLES H. GOSS, of Auburn Theological Seminary, will preach Sunday evening, Jan. 2, 1876, commencing at 7:30 o'clock. Dr. Thomson's Bible Class, 5 o'clock. Meetings for young men, Thursday evening at 8 o'clock in the lecture-room, and Saturday evening at 8:30 o'clock in the parlors. Daily meeting for prayer at 3:30 o'clock in the lecture-room, except Friday, 4 o'clock, in the hall.

ANNIVERSARY

and historical Centennial discourse, by Rev. N. W. Conkling, D. D., Rutgers Presbyterian Church, Madison av. and 29th st., to-morrow, at 10:30 A. M. Special invitation to new members. Evening service, with New Year's motto-text sermon, at 7:30 o'clock.

AT FIFTH AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH, West 46th st.—Rev. Thos. Armitage, D. D., Pastor, will preach Sunday morning annual sermon to the aged: "Old Age as Forsaken of God." Evening annual sermon to the young: "The Prodigal Son." Services at 10:30 and 7:30 o'clock. Sunday-school, 9 A. M. A cordial welcome to all.

ANNUNCIATION CHURCH, 14TH ST., Between 6th and 7th avs.—Seats free. Rev. W. J. Seabury, Rector. Jan. 2, celebration of the holy communion in the German language, 7:30 A. M. Morning prayer and holy communion, with sermon, 10:30 A. M. Evening prayer, (choral,) 4 P. M. Service and sermon in German, 7:30 P. M.

ALLEN STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, near Grand st., Geo. O. Phelps, Pastor.—Noonday prayer-meeting from 12 to 1 o'clock. Preaching Sunday morning and evening. Subject for Sunday evening—"Things Old and New, or New Year Reflections." Seats free.

AT FREE TABERNACLE M. E. CHURCH, West 34th st., 7th and 8th avs., Rev. J. Johns, Pastor, will preach on Sunday at 10:30 A. M. Subject, "The Barren Fig Tree." Evening at 7:30. Subject, "Almost Persuaded." Young people's meeting at 6 P. M. Seats free.

ALL SOULS' CHURCH, 4TH AV., CORNER 20th st.—Dr. Bellows will preach morning at 11, on "The Wisdom of Hope," and at 7:45, evening, on "The Gospel's Way of Wishing a Happy New Year." All are invited. Sunday-school 9:45 A. M.

ANTHON MEMORIAL CHURCH, 43D ST., west of 6th av., Rev. R. Heber Newton Rector.—On Sunday at 10:30 A. M. holy communion and address by the Rector. Even service at 7:30 o'clock; Rev. J. W. Paige will preach.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHURCH OF THE STRANGERS, Mercer st., near 8th. Sermon by Rev. Dr. Deems, at 10:30 A. M., and 7:30 P. M. All seats free.

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH, CORNER Bedford and Downing sts.—Preaching Sunday, Jan. 2, 1876, by Pastor, Rev. L. G. Barrett, subject, "The New Year," at 10:30 A. M. Also, preaching at 7:30 P. M. Sunday-school, 9 A. M. and 2 P. M. All are cordially welcome.

BEDFORD ST. M. E. CHURCH, CORNER Bedford and Morton sts.—The New-York Praying Band, Samuel Halstead, leader, will conduct the services at this church all day Sunday, Jan. 2, 10:30 A. M., 3 and 7 P. M. Seats free. All are invited.

CITY MISSION CHAPELS.—PREACHING every Sabbath evening at 7:30 o'clock, as follows:

DE WITT CHAPEL, No. 135 Greenwich st., Rev. George Hatt, Pastor.
CALVARY CHAPEL, No. 159 Worth st., temporarily supplied.
LEBANON CHAPEL, No. 70 Columbia st., Rev. Joseph H. Bradley, Pastor.
CARMEL CHAPEL, No. 134 Bowery, Rev. D. Stuart Dodge, Pastor.
OLIVET CHAPEL, No. 63 2d st., Rev. A. F. Schauffler, Pastor.

Seats free. Come and welcome.

New-York City Mission and Tract Society Office, No. 50 Bible House.

CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR,
Fifty-seventh st., near Eighth av.
JAMES M. FULLMAN, Pastor.
SUNDAY MORNING AT 11.
A NEW YEAR'S SERMON.
EVENING AT 7:45.

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, MADISON AV. AND 42D ST.

Hours of services 10:30 A. M., 3:00 and 7:30 P. M. Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, Jr., D. D., will preach in the morning and evening. Rev. J. W. Bonham in the afternoon.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE, 74th st., east of 4th av., Rev. J. Tuttle Smith, Rector.—Holy communion Saturday morning; feast of the circumcision at 10 o'clock. Sunday services at 10:30 A. M. and 3:30 P. M. Christmas Tree, Monday evening, 7 o'clock.

CHURCH OF THE COVENANT, (PRESBYTERIAN) corner Park av. and 35th st., Rev. Marvin R. Vincent, D. D., Pastor.—Morning service at 11 o'clock; at 3:30 P. M. a service of worship and praise, with sermon by the Pastor. Sunday-school at 9:30 A. M. Lecture Wednesday, at 7:45 P. M.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 23D ST., between 5th and 6th avs., Rev. R. S. MacArthur, Pastor, preaches. Morning subject: "The Michmash Valley." Evening—Suggestions for the New Year. Prayer-meeting every night during the week except Saturday. Strangers cordially invited.

CENTRAL M. E. CHURCH, 7TH AV., NEAR 14th st.—Rev. C. S. Harrower, Pastor. Preaching at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday-school services, 2:30 P. M.

CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION, MADISON AV. and 35th st., Rev. Arthur Brooks, Rector.—Divine service at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.

CHARLES H. GOSS, OF AUBURN THEOLOGICAL Seminary, will speak to young men Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock, at Association Hall.

FIRST REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Madison av., corner of 47th st., Rev. Wm. T. Sabine, Rector.—Sunday-school at 9 A. M. Divine services at 10:30 A. M. and 7:45 P. M. Rev. George Howell, of the Second Reformed Episcopal Church, of this City, will preach in the morning; the Rector will preach in the evening.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CORNER Park av. and 39th st.—Rev. Walter H. Brooks, of Richmond, Va., Superintendent of Freedmen's Sunday-schools, will address the Sunday-school. Meeting on Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

FOURTEENTH STREET PRESBYTERIAN Church, corner 9d av., Rev. F. H. Marling, Pastor. Sabbath services 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.; Sabbath-school 9 A. M.; Young People's Prayer-meeting, 6:45 P. M. Strangers made welcome.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CORNER PARK Av. and 39th st.—Preaching by the Pastor, Rev. T. D. Anderson, D. D., at 10:30 A. M. Lord's supper, 3:30 P. M. 7:30 evening, Sunday-school meeting. Cordial invitation.

FIRST SABBATH IN THE NEW YEAR.—Rev. Thos. T. Hastings, D. D., Pastor, will preach in the West Presbyterian Church, West 42d st., between 5th and 6th avs., on Sunday, Jan. 2, services will be held at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 5TH av. and 11th st.—Wm. M. Paxton, D. D., Pastor, will preach at 10:30 A. M. and 3:30 P. M. Strangers cordially invited.

FIVE POINTS HOUSE OF INDUSTRY, NO. 155 Worth st., William F. Barnard, Superintendent.—Service of song by the children on Sunday at 3:30 P. M. Public invited.

FIFTY-THIRD STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, Broadway and 6th av.: preaching Sunday at 10:30 A. M. by Rev. J. S. Backus, D. D.; at 7:30 P. M. by Rev. George Guiry. Sunday-school at 2 P. M.

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 34th st., near Broadway.—Rev. Joseph R. Kerr, Pastor of this church, will preach Sunday. Services begin in the morning at 10:30, and afternoon at 3:30.

GOD IS WITH HIM.—THE HERALD OF THE coming King of glory and Pastor of Mount Zion, Bishop Snow, will preach in the University, Washington square, on Sunday at 3 P. M. Seats free. Subject: "The Glory of God to Fill the Earth; How and When?"

MEETINGS AT HOWARD MISSION, NO. 40 New Bowery, New-York, Sunday, Jan. 2, 1876. Sunday-school at 1:30, singing by the children, under charge of Prof. Geo. S. Weekes, from 3:30 to 4 o'clock. Religious service in the evening, at 7:30, at which the children will sing. General prayer and conference meeting Tuesday evening, at 7:30. Public cordially invited. WM. B. CLEGG, Supt.

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 53d st. and Madison av., Rev. Chas. S. Robinson, D. D., Pastor.—Services in the morning at 11 o'clock; evening at 7:30 o'clock. Sunday-school, 9:30 A. M. Mission school, 2:30 P. M.

MASONIC TEMPLE, 23D ST., 6TH AV.—MONCURE D. CONWAY will speak on SUNDAY MORNING at 10:45. Subject: "The New Testament."

In the EVENING at 8 Mr. Conway will lecture on "Science and Religion," with illustrative references to Darwin, Huxley, Spencer, Tyndall, and other leaders of opinion. Admission 50 cents.

NEW-YORK PORT SOCIETY.—PREACHING at the Mariners' Church, corner of Catharine and Madison sts., to-morrow at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M., by the Pastor, Rev. E. D. Murphy, and at 3 P. M., at No. 278 Water st., by Associate Pastor, Rev. Benjamin F. Millard.

NEW-YORK SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—No Primary class this day. Superintendents' class Tuesday next, at 4 o'clock, in Fulton Street Chapel, Rev. Dr. Vincent, conductor. Normal class Thursday, at 4:45, in Dr. Crosby's Church Chapel, Ralph Wells, conductor.

NEW YEAR'S SERMON AT THE NORTH Presbyterian Church, corner of 9th av. and 31st st., Pastor, Rev. S. B. Rossiter.—Service at 10:30; subject, "A Light for the New Year." Sunday School anniversary in the evening at 7:30.

OLD JOHN STREET M. E. CHURCH, Between Nassau and William sts.—Preaching by Rev. Dr. W. H. DePuy, 10:30 A. M., 7:30 P. M. Seats free; all cordially invited.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SEA AND Land, corner Henry and Market sts.—Preaching by the Pastor, Rev. E. Hopper, D. D., every Sabbath, at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sabbath-school at 9:30 A. M. and 2 P. M. Young people's prayer-meeting at 6:45 P. M. Seats free. All are welcome.

THE CIRCULATION OF THE SUNDAY TELEGRAM IS 165,000 COPIES, READ BY OVER 500,000 PEOPLE. OFFICE NO. 2 ANN ST. OPEN TO-DAY FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF ADVERTISERS.

REV. ROBERT CROOK, D. D., PASTOR, will preach in the Sixty-first Street M. E. Church, between 2d and 3d avs., at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Morning subject: "The Love of God Perfected in Him who Keepeth His Word." Evening: "The Unchanging Saviour." Services during week of prayer, Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 8 o'clock; Wednesday and Friday evenings at 7:30 o'clock. Strangers cordially invited.

REV. GEORGE G. MINGINS WILL PREACH Resteadily in the North Dutch Church, corner William, Fulton, and Ann sts., entrances No. 103 Fulton st. and No. 58 Ann st. Morning at 10:30 and evening at 7:30 o'clock. In this chapel the Fulton street daily noon prayer-meeting is held.

REV. H. W. KNAPP WILL PREACH IN the First Mission Baptist Church, corner Laight and Varick sts., at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Morning subject: "The abiding and abounding Christian the victorious one." Evening subject: "The human heart Satan's earth resting place."

REV. CHARLES E. HARRIS, PASTOR OF Allen Street Methodist Episcopal Church, between Delancey and Rivington sts., will preach morning and evening. Subject—"Salutatory of 1876." Seats free. Revival services every night during the week.

REV. WILLIAM D. WALKER WILL preach in St. Peter's Church, West 20th st., between 8th and 9th avs., on Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The musical services are under the direction of Charles S. Fischer, Esq.

REV. JOSEPH F. ELDER, D. D., PASTOR, will preach in the Madison Avenue Baptist Church, corner 31st st., at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday-school at 2 P. M. All cordially invited.

REV. J. H. LIGHTBOURN WILL PREACH in Seventeenth Street M. E. Church, between 1st and 2d avs. Subjects—10:30 A. M., "The Atonement;" 7:30 P. M., "The New Year." Seats free.

REV. WILLIAM ADAMS, D. D., WILL reproach at the Madison Avenue Reformed Church, corner of 57th st., on Sunday, at 11 A. M. All are cordially welcome.

REV. SAMUEL M. HAMILTON, PASTOR OF

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

A MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY.

BENEDICT'S JEWELRY STORE ENTERED BY THIEVES—GOODS WORTH $3,000 CARRIED OFF.

Shortly after 5 o'clock yesterday morning, Capt. Van Dusen, of the Fifteenth Precinct, was informed that the jewelry store of Benedict Brothers, No. 675 Broadway, had been entered by burglars during the previous night, one of the safes in the place opened, and watches and jewelry to a large amount carried off. The store is situated under the Grand Central Hotel, north of the ladies' entrance, and the proprietors are Samuel W. and Ovington Benedict. At the rear of the store, which is about seventy-five feet long, is a wooden partition which divides the store from the reading-room of the hotel. In the centre of this partition there is a door, the upper half of which is plain glass. This door is secured with an ordinary lock and a strong iron bolt on the inside. Both of the proprietors have been for some time past in the habit of sleeping in the rear portion of the store. Each of the brothers has a key to this door, and it was the duty of the last who came in to shoot the bolt. A light is kept burning in the store all night, but it is generally turned down so low as to prevent any person looking in through the windows on Broadway from seeing anything going on in the rear. Samuel W. Benedict, after spending Thursday evening with some friends entered the store about midnight and went to bed. His brother Ovington returned about an hour afterward, and after, as he claims, locking and bolting the rear door, also went to bed. Both brothers assert that they examined the door opening into the reading-room of the hotel, and found it secure before they retired. Nothing unusual was noticed during the night by the night-clerk, porters, or watchmen on duty in the hotel office, which is a short distance from the door opening into the store, and no knowledge of the robbery was obtained until about 8 o'clock yesterday morning. At that time a young man who goes to the store every morning to open the place was surprised to find the rear door opened. He entered and found his employers, both apparently sound asleep on their beds, which were drawn up to within a few feet of the door. The young man experienced considerable difficulty in rousing them, and when they were finally awakened they appeared stupid and distraught. Learning that the door had been found open the brothers at once made an investigation, and found that a safe, which stood in a recess behind the counter, had been opened and its contents, consisting of silver watches, gold chains, plated bracelets, gold rings, &c., had been carried off. The safe had been opened with a broken key which had been for some time lying in the case drawer behind the counter, the thieves using a pair of pliers which they also obtained from one of the drawers, to turn the key in the lock. The plunder thus drawn had also been taken—$199 in green backs. The value of the watches and jewelry stolen from the safe is estimated at $3,000. Among the bedclothes was found a small phial, which had contained some aromatic drug, and the linen covering of the pillows was found to have been saturated with some fluid which left a stain. The brothers say that they have no knowledge of anything from the time they fell asleep until they were awakened by the young man yesterday morning.

As soon as the robbery was reported at Police Head-quarters, Inspector McDermott and Detective Philip Reilly, of the Central Office, proceeded to the store and assisted by Capt. Van Dusen and Detectives Clark, of the Fifteenth Precinct, made a minute examination of the premises. The door leading from the store into the reading-room of the hotel was first carefully examined, but not the slightest mark to indicate that violence had been used in opening it was discovered. The key was in the lock on the thief's side, and did not bear marks which invariably accompany the use of nippers. The strong iron bolt on the inside was also intact, and it was evident that the door had not been opened from the outside. The cash drawer from which the broken key, with which the safe had been unlocked, and the currency were taken, was not forced but appeared to have been unlocked, and the pliers by which were used by the person who opened the safe were taken from another drawer in a different part of the store. Nothing else was disturbed. Next to the safe which was rifled of its contents was another, which contained gold watches and diamond jewelry to the value of $25,000. No attempt had been made to open this safe. The show-cases on the left hand side of the store were filled with fine plated ware, the property of H. M. Post, who occupies one-half of the store for the sale of the goods manufactured by the Meriden Britannia Company. Not a single article in these show-cases was disturbed. Careful inquiry was made among the employes of the hotel relative to the robbery during the night, and they all stated that they did not see or hear anything, and that no stranger had been seen to leave the reading-room. The theory of the robbery advanced by the proprietors of the store is that the thief must have effected an entrance by the rear door during their absence, and concealed himself behind one of the large counters, and dragged them after they were asleep.

THE NEW BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

A SCENE EXPECTED IN THE CITY HALL ON MONDAY.

The scene witnessed one year ago in the City Hall, when Messrs. Toner and Demarest claimed seats in the Board of Assistant Aldermen, is likely to be re-enacted on a larger scale on Monday, when the new City Fathers will organize for the year 1876. Mr. Wolte, the counsel of Toner and Demarest, having applied in vain to the Mayor for a recognition of the persons who ran at the last election for Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen, under the charter of 1870, appeared before Judge McAdam, of the Marine Court, yesterday, and asked his Honor to swear them into office. He claimed that they had been elected in pursuance of the charter of 1870, which provided for twenty-one Assistant Aldermen and fifteen Aldermen at Large, and that the charter of 1873, so far as it affected the election of Aldermen and the abolition of the Board of Assistant Aldermen, was unconstitutional. Judge McAdam granted the application and administered the oath of office to the following persons, who claim that they compose the Common Council for 1876:

Aldermen.—John J. Kehoe, Thomas J. Quirk, John P. Strack, Wallis Darrow, William J. Thornton, Edward M. Plum, William E. Demarest, George Kelly, Christopher Rath, Charles Schwartz, Albert R. Learned, and Mathew Burns.

Assistant Aldermen.—William Kenny, Bernard Gilmartin, Martin Keogh, jr., Hugh Mallon, John Nisis, Patrick Toner, Patrick Reilly, Thomas Drummond, Michael Kiernan, David Vogenomp, James O'Rourke, Joseph H. Brown, William J. Smith, Martin W. Hynes, William T. Kavanagh, August Ecke, and James R. Brown.

In some instances only three votes were cast for these "Aldermen," and sixty-five for the "Assistant Aldermen." They represented the only ticket in the field that was based on the charter of 1870, which was repealed by that of 1873. It is said that precautions will be taken to prevent their admission to any portion of the Aldermanic Chamber, except the gallery, which is reserved for spectators.

THE NEW-YORK COUNTY DEMOCRACY.

The Executive Committee of the New-York County Democracy, the Anti-Tammany organization, have directed the issuing of a call for primary elections to choose Assembly District Committees and a General Committee for 1876. The leading members of the committee say that the late action of Tammany in increasing the number of its General Committee will not have the intended effect of weakening the Anti-Tammany organization, as it is well known that this influence will continue to operate, notwithstanding the increase of delegates from the several Assembly districts, so long as the Tammany Society controls the Tammany Building, in which the Tammany General Committee must meet, under its by-laws, and from which any delegation inimical to the society or to John Kelly can be excluded as "irregular," no matter by how large a majority it may be elected. The prominent men in the Anti-Tammany movement say that they will fight Tammany Hall as long as this state of affairs continues, as it is of no use to attempt to fight Tammany Society or John Kelly's one-man power within the Tammany ranks.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY.

Late on Thursday night a gang of burglars gained the roof of the building No. 481 Broome street, occupied by A. & R. Ettinger, dealers in fine furs, by passing through the unoccupied house No. 52 Wooster street. They forced open the scuttle and were about entering the building when Patrolman Regan, of the Eighth Precinct, noticed a suspicious-looking man standing in front of No. 52 Wooster street. The officer asked the man what he was doing there, when the thief, who was acting as lookout for the burglars, made no reply but ran away. Officer Regan gave chase, and was fired at twice by the fugitive, who succeeded in making his escape. Capt. McDonnell, on hearing the alarm, called out a section of men and surrounded the block, but by that time the burglars had succeed in effecting their escape. On the roof of Messrs. Ettinger's premises the Police found a "jimmy," brace and bit, and a coil of rope.

MASKED BALLS.

A meeting of ball-room owners was held yesterday afternoon at the Germania Assembly Room to take initiatory steps for the repeal or the amendment of the law prohibiting masked balls. It is the intention to send a committee to Albany as soon as possible, but before it is appointed it is thought best to interest a larger portion of the community in the object. With this end in view, there was a committee of nine appointed yesterday from those present at the meeting to visit all who are in any way affected by the interdiction of the law in their business capacity, and solicit their co-operation in the furtherance of the object. In the meantime all of the interested parties are to visit the Assemblymen and Senators of their respective districts and lay the matter before them and get an idea of what chance there will be of effecting the change. There was also a committee of three appointed to visit a prominent member of the Legislature and ask him to present such a bill at the beginning of the session as will answer the purpose. An assessment of $10 was made upon each member to defray necessary expenses, and Mr. Winkle, of the Turner Hall, in Fourth street, was elected Treasurer.

MR. JEWETT'S STEWARDSHIP.

STATEMENTS OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE ERIE RAILWAY FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS—THE REFEREE RECOMMENDS THAT THEY BE CONFIRMED.

The statements of the accounts of the Erie Railway Company prepared by the Receiver, Hon. H. J. Jewett, for the months of September, October, and November, 1875, and examined by the Referee, Mr. James C. Spencer, were yesterday presented to the Supreme Court, before which tribunal the suits of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company and of J. C. Bancroft Davis were brought. According to the recommendation of the Referee, Justice Donohue approved and confirmed the accounts, and they were placed on file in the County Clerk's office.

Separate reports of the business of September and October and of the business of November are made. The report of the Referee in relation to the business of September and October, after reciting his appointment and the beginning of his investigations on Nov. 4, submits the statements of accounts contained in Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, and F, and comments on each of them. Exhibit A, he says, was verified by William P. Shearman, the Cashier of the Receiver, on account of the latter's illness. According to this statement, which is a detailed account of the receipts and expenditures of the Receiver, there was a balance on hand in October of $441,871 81. This exhibit, showing as it does all the items of moneys paid and received, is very voluminous, and the totals of the different accounts are given in Exhibit B.

The principal items in Exhibit B are as follows:

RECEIPTS.	
Balance on hand Sept. 1	$373,592 43
Transportation of freight	2,801,838 43
Transportation of passengers	850,216 22
Transportation of mails	99,812 14
Train service	38,346 23
Sale of old and surplus material	47,931 01
Interest on securities	16,103 85
Sale of Receiver's certificates	145,000 00
These, with other and smaller items, make up a total for the two months of	$4,418,447 74

EXPENDITURES.	
Traffic balance passengers	$121,576 32
Traffic balance freight	547,739 10
Drawbacks and overcharges	60,967 72
Loss and damage	10,219 85
Labor and material	21,723 98
Line labor pay rolls	1,134,931 67
General office pay-rolls	55,197 93
Incidental expenses	9,871 68
Salaries and Expenses Passenger Agencies	30,421 41
Legal Expenses, of which $5,799 13 were incurred before the Receiver took possession of the road	23,465 98
Supplies	633,061 73
Construction	4,669 14
Iron Bridges	35,542 48
Purchase of cars	52,266 90
Real estate mortgages	41,887 36
Loans	495,000 00
Rents	106,899 24
Taxes	21,511 05
Interest on Mortgage Bonds	325,348 16
Advances to other companies:	
Hillside Coal and Iron Company	54,858 84
North-western Mining Exchange Company	70,657 98
Towanda Coal Company	25,174 81
These, with smaller items and the balance on hand Nov. 1, of	441,871 81
Make the total	$4,418,447 74

Exhibit C is a table of ledger balances from May 27 to Oct. 31, being the aggregate postings of all the accounts current on the books. Exhibit D is an analysis of the cash balance as shown by A and B, and is intended to show that the actual amount of cash on hand Nov. 1, 1875, was $194,387 07, and the balance of $247,484 74, which goes to make up the ledger balance of $441,871 81, consists of cash items or debit items, explained by the exhibit as being accounts not settled, which are actual assets. Exhibit E is a statement of outstanding and unpaid certificates of indebtedness, and notes from May 27 to Oct. 31, and of the certificates and notes that have been paid during that time. It shows that the outstanding and unpaid paper on Sept. 1 was $821,539 40, and on Nov. 1 was $966,539 40, being an apparent increase of $145,000. Exhibit F consists of the depositions of W. P. Shearman, Cashier of the Receiver, Stephen Little, Auditor of the Receiver, and Augustus Stein, a professional accountant in the employ of the Receiver. These depositions are in explanation and verification of the preceding exhibits.

In conclusion, the Referee says that these papers comprise all that was submitted to him; that no objection was made, by any one before him to the accounts, nor to the manner and form of the accounting, nor was any additional proof or evidence offered by any one, and that the following facts were proved and established by the said accounts:

1. That the balance in the possession of the Receiver, and accounted for by him and carried over as "balance," was $373,592 43.

2. That the aggregate receipts for the months of September and October, including the balance, was $4,925,770 36, while the aggregate disbursements were $4,483,898 55, leaving a balance on hand, Nov. 1, of $441,871 81.

3. That this is not an actual cash balance, as explained by Exhibit D, which shows that $247,484 74 consisted of cash paid out as advances or partial payments on accounts and business transactions, which were not in condition to be carried forward and placed to the Receiver's credit, but which will be credited hereafter.

4. That the aggregate amount of the certificates of indebtedness and notes issued by the Receiver up to Nov. 1 was $1,536,539 40. The aggregate amount paid and canceled up to the same time was $570,000. This makes a balance of $966,539 40 of paper now outstanding, which when compared with the aggregate outstanding on Sept. 1, of $821,539 40, shows an apparent increase of $145,000.

6. The accounts are evidently correct and truthful.

In consequence Mr. Spencer recommended that the accounts be approved and allowed by the court.

The second report is similar in form, and shows the business of the road for November. It is accompanied by a similar set of accounts or exhibits, of which the first, or Exhibit A, shows a balance on hand Dec. 1 of $518,171 62. "B" the condensed statement of receipts and expenditures, shows the following among its numerous items:

RECEIPTS.	
Transportation of freight	$1,736,332 17
Transportation of passengers	352,027 44
Telegrams	3,327 96
Train service	26,803 27
Sale of old and surplus material	8,759 26
Sale of real estate	1,035 72
Coupons and dividends	12,486 00

EXPENDITURES.	
Traffic balances, passengers	$24 217 31
Traffic balances, freight	363,560 56
Drawbacks and overcharges	95,518 41
Loss and damage	7,694 28
Labor and material	18,454 49
Line labor pay-rolls	658,342 21
General office pay-rolls	53,362 39
Salaries and expenses passenger agencies	16,637 64
Legal expenses	2,505 62
Supplies	282,879 35
Iron bridges	23,157 97
Purchase of cars	26,898 33
Real estate mortgages	35,245 16
Loans	185,000 00
Rents	43,995 29
Taxes	8,813 83
Injury to persons	952 10
Interest on mortgage bonds	101,860 00
Purchase of locomotives	28,400 00
Advance to Hillside Coal and Iron Co	56,459 50

Exhibit C shows the ledger footings to Dec. 1. Exhibit D shows that the actual cash balance on hand is $202,961 51, while the cash items or debit items are $315,201 11; making the total balance on hand $518,171 62. Exhibit E shows that there were outstanding certificates of indebtedness and notes on Nov. 1, aggregating $966,539 40, and that there were on Dec. 1, only $781,539 40; showing an apparent diminution of $185,000 00. Exhibit F consists of depositions in verification of the accounts.

The Referee says that in inspecting the accounts for the month he examined over 1,500 vouchers, which were all regular. That full opportunity was given to the attorneys of parties in interest to examine any of them. That they did so examine many, and that no objection was offered. That the pay-rolls, which were held as assets, being forwarded in duplicate to the Paymaster, together with the cash requisite to settle them, would, it was promised by the Referee, be fully accounted for in January, up to Jan. 1. That there were other accounts in a similar condition. And that the following facts were established by the accounts.

1. That the balance on hand Nov. 1 was $441,871 81.

2. That the receipts for the month, including this balance, were $2,662,530 06, and the disbursements, $2,144,358 44, leaving a balance on Dec. 1 of $518,171 62.

3. That the actual cash balance on hand was $202,961 51, and that the balance of $518,171 62 included cash items or debit items of $315,210 11.

4. That the aggregate certificates of indebtedness and notes issued up to Nov. 30 was $1,536,539 40, and that the aggregate amount paid up to that time was $705,000, leaving outstanding Dec. 1 the aggregate amount of $781,539 40, which, compared with the amount of $966,539 40 outstanding Nov. 1, shows an apparent reduction in November of $185,000.

5. The accounts are truthful and correct, and the Referee, in consequence, recommends that they be confirmed.

THE RECORD OF ROBBERIES.

The following robberies were reported at Police Head-quarters yesterday: Between 10 and 11 o'clock on Thurday night, sneak-thieves entered the residence of Mr. John O. Sargent, No. 295 Fifth avenue and carried off jewelry valued at $250. Mrs. Forrester, of No. 548 Ninth avenue, reported that she had been robbed of a gold watch and chain; value, $100. The show-case in front of Charles Mitscha's store, No. 484 Broadway, was broken open yesterday morning, and three seal and mink muffs valued at $65, stolen. Sneak-thieves stole silver spoons and property valued at $50 from the apartments of Henry Komahsen, at No. 356 West Thirty-eighth street. A clock, value $20, was stolen from the office of Charles Scott at No. 41 Dey street. Lead pipe worth $30 was stolen from the liquor-store of Dunigan & Brother, No. 95 Tenth avenue. Jewelry and silver-ware valued at $95 was stolen from the apartments of Timothy Dryer, of No. 406 East Sixty-sixth street. Two clocks, value $16, were stolen from Grammar School No. 61, in Third avenue between One Hundred and Sixty-Ninth and One Hundred and Seventieth streets. David Johnson, of Cross street, West Farms, reported that he had been robbed of $62 by a room-mate named Andrew Benzen.

THE CITY CHARITIES.

LARGE REDUCTION IN THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION — THE SCHOOL-SHIP MERCURY GIVEN UP.

In consequence of the action of the Board of Apportionment in reducing the appropriation of the Department of Charities and Correction from $1,366,992 76, (the sum asked for,) to $1,163,000, the Board of Commissioners find that it will be not only necessary for them to effect a general retrenchment, but to discontinue what they consider one of its most important and needful institutions. At the meeting of the board yesterday morning the entire matter was thoroughly discussed, the Commissioners finally concluding that the only institution which would be dispensed with under the circumstances was the school-ship Mercury. In accordance with this view it was resolved that the school ship Mercury be laid up in ordinary, the boys transferred to the care of the Warden on Hart's Island, and the services of the officers and seamen dispensed with. Only those of the boys who are over sixteen years of age will be retained on the island, it being the intention to distribute those under that age among the various charitable institutions of the City and vicinity. As the department has no further employment for the Mercury, for the present at least, the Commissioners favor the idea advanced by Mr. Bailey of putting her at the disposal of some benevolent society that would use her as a school-ship.

Partly on account of the reduction of their resources and partly because of the discharge of the children over three years of age from Randall's Island, in compliance with the new law, the Commissioners also adopted a resolution dispensing with the services of the Warden, drill-master, nurses, and all other paid employes of the Nursery. The adoption of this resolution and that relating to the school-ship necessitates the discharge of the following officials:

SCHOOL SHIP MERCURY.

Name.	Rank.	Salary.
F. F. Gregory	Captain	$2,100
Charles E. Davis	Executive Officer	1,200
George N. Fenner	Second Officer	900
Samuel S. Gordon	Third Officer	720
John C. Johnson	Instructor	980
William N. Jackson	Surgeon	600
George Ott	Clerk	180
Patrick H. Clark	Engineer	660
Charles Berghold	Steward	540
Benjamin Tucker	Cook	480
Henry Wildhagen	Carpenter	360
Patrick F. O'Neill	Master-at-Arms	500
Peter Kelly	Master's Mate	400
Eight Seamen, $30 per annum		2,400

RANDALL'S ISLAND NURSERY.

William H. Stephens	Warden	$2,000
H. De B. Clay	Drill-Master	1,000
James Walter	Clerk	180
Michael W. Connolly	Watchman	500
William Harly	Hostler	120
Raphael Gelinas	Chaplain	600
Kate Leonard	Matron	500
Mary Baldwin	Nurse	300
Three Assistant Matrons, at $240 per annum		1,150
Two Nurses, at $192 per annum		384
Eight servants, at $144 per ann.		1,152
Two helpers, at $60 per annum		120

The appropriation of $90,000 requested for the support of the Out-door Poor Department, and the annual distribution of money and coals to the poor of the City is also to be entirely discontinued unless a reduction of expenses in other bureaus can be made. At present the Commissioners have no money belonging to this fund on hand, and they cannot see how the Out-door Poor Fund can be created by lessening the expenditures of the other institutions, that resource being deemed inexpedient owing to the fact that the estimates are at present as low as they can possibly be made without detriment to the welfare of the inmates.

FATHER BOEHM'S FUNERAL.

INTERESTING SERVICES—ADDRESS OF BISHOP JANES.

Father Boehm, the centenarian preacher, was buried yesterday afternoon, the funeral services taking place in the Woodrow Church, Staten Island, under direction of the Pastor, Rev. Mr. Relyea. There was a large assemblage present. The clergy was fully represented. Besides the Pastors of Staten Island, there were present Bishop E. S. Janes, of New-York; Dr. R. Van Horn, Presiding Elder of the Newark Conference, of which Father Boehm was a member; Dr. Albert Hunt, Rev. C. S. Coit, Dr. J. O. G. McKown, of Jersey City; Revs. N. Van Zandt, J. P. Fort, Bartholomew Weed, C. Compton, of the Newark Conference; George W. Smith, of Montclair; Edson Burr, of Bloomfield; Dr. Nelson, of the Methodist Book Concern, and Dr. Reid, of the Methodist Missionary Society. The remains were brought over from Richmond by the highway, and were followed by the relatives in carriages. At 1:30 o'clock they were deposited on the table in front of the altar. The coffin was entirely without ornament, and was covered with black cloth trimmed with black velvet, and the plate bore the simple inscription "Rev. Henry Boehm." The pall-bearers were Rev. Messrs. Fort, Van Horn, Van Zant, J. F. Hurst, President Drew Theological Seminary; A. J. Palmer, and W. S. Gallaway, and Dr. Hadden, Father Boehm's physician. The services were opened with singing by the choir, after which Rev. Bartholomew Weed, now the oldest member of the Newark Conference, offered a very impressive prayer. Bishop Janes delivered a short address, speaking substantially as follows:

The oak on the mountain top has covered itself with foliage for a hundred Summers, and presented its naked form to the storms of a hundred Winters. But in the course of nature the time arrives when neither the genial warmth of Spring nor the chilling frosts of Autumn can move its sluggish currents. Strength fails and decay follows. But the fact that it wrestled with the blasts of so many seasons proves that it had a strong constitution and great tenacity of life. Otherwise it had not survived the multitude whose acorns opened in the same Spring time, under circumstances more similar. So with our sainted friend whose remains are before us now. He had seen a hundred Spring seasons clothe the earth with verdure, a hundred Autumns clothe the earth with harvest. He not only lived to celebrate his own birthday, but also the birthday of his Saviour and ours. He lived till all who were contemporaneous with him had passed away. And this is all the more remarkable because of the hardships and perils of his labor. We naturally conclude that he had a good constitution, that he cared for himself in accordance with the known laws of health, and that, finally, he was watched over by Divine Providence with especial care. The time came when disease overwhelmed him, and our centenarian died. Human life is not a mere natural existence. Man has also an intellectual, moral, and spiritual being, and this spiritual life is subject to struggles exceeding those incident to the maintenance of natural life. Father Boehm's spiritual life may be characterized as a pillar in the Temple of God. There were no backslidings in his course. He was our century-plant, and now our century-plant has become an eternal plant. Bishop Janes then made some allusions to the remarkable life of Father Boehm, as regards the numerous historical and religious events it witnessed, and spoke particularly of his relations with the Church, and his duties under it, the nature of which, he said, showed conclusively that he must have been a man of more than ordinary ability.

Addresses were also made by Dr. J. G. Crane, Presiding Elder of the Staten Island Conference, and Dr. Albert Hunt. An opportunity was then afforded the relatives and friends for a last look of Father Boehm, after which the pall-bearers took up their burden and laid it in the grave which had been dug directly in front of the church, and by the side of the grave of Father Boehm's wife and of his son Henry M. Boehm. Woodrow Church Cemetery was selected as the burial site for the reason that the old Boehm homestead was in the Woodrow parish, the homestead house standing near what is now Gifford's Station on the Staten Island Railroad.

REDUCING EXPENSES.

Several weeks since Postmaster General Jewell appointed a commission, consisting of Special Agents M. La Rue Harrison, James L. Wilder, and Samuel A. Smith, to visit the large Post Offices of the United States to investigate their working, with a view to the reduction of expenses. Every department of the New-York Post Office and its branches were thoroughly examined, the result of which has been a reduction of 439,762 in the appropriation of expenses for the ensuing year. The massing of matter for the fast trains permitted the reduction of the force in the mailing and distribution division, by which a saving of $25,054 will be effected annually. The balance of the reduction is in the executive and registry departments.

In consequence of this action of the commission, twenty-eight clerks were yesterday removed, their average salaries being $1,000 per annum.

ARRIVALS AT THE HOTELS.

Prince Starhemberg, of Austria, is at the Hotel Brunswick.

Surgeon Daniel McMurtrie, United States Navy, is at the Sturtevant House.

Rev. Dr. W. G. R. Mellen, of Albany, is at the St. Denis Hotel.

Senator George S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Ex-Gov. Henry D. Cooke, of the District of Columbia, and United States District Attorney R. C. Badger, of North Carolina, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

CITY AND SUBURBAN NEWS.

NEW-YORK.

The offices in the City Hall, including the Mayor's, will be closed to-day.

Rev. Dr. Foss, President of Wesleyan University, will preach at St. James M. E. Church, Harlem, to-morrow morning and evening.

The Secretary of the Butter and Cheese Exchange reports that the total receipts of butter, cheese, and eggs, in this City, from May 1 to Dec. 1, 1875, were: Butter, 688,446 packages; cheese, 1,765,125 boxes; and eggs, 250,330 packages.

In compliance with the law passed by the last Legislature requiring the discharge of all children over three years of age from the Randall's Island Nursery, except the diseased and deformed, over 400 children were removed from the nursery during the past week and distributed among the various institutions for the care of juveniles.

The Board of Aldermen held a brief session yesterday. Only sixteen members were present, and therefore general orders involving expenditures of money, and requiring a three-fourths vote, could not be passed. The bill of Hawk & Weatherby, proprietors of the Windsor Hotel, for the entertainment of King Kalakaua and *suite*, was called up, and, after a brief discussion, laid over.

Early yesterday morning two young women, named Minnie Griffiths and Annie Wilson, were arrested for intoxication and locked up in the Fourteenth Precinct Station-house. Shortly after Doorman Brown, while inspecting the prison, discovered that the girls had hanged themselves to the bars of the cell-door with strips of muslin which they had torn from their dresses. They were at once cut down by the doorman, and recovered soon after.

The European mails of to-day, per steamships Germanic, for Queenstown, and California, for Glasgow, will be closed this morning at 5 o'clock. Postmaster James states that the following mail steam-ships were overdue yesterday afternoon at this port: The Salier, of the North German Lloyds, from Bremen; the City of Chester, of the Inman Line, from Queenstown; the France, of the Trans-Atlantique Line, from Havre; and the Ethiopia and Australia, of the Anchor Line, from Glasgow.

At a regular Communication of Keystone Lodge, No. 235, F. and A. M., held on Wednesday evening, R. W. Brother James E. Morrison, D. D. G. M., installed the officers elect as follows: Joseph L. Michel, W. M.; Albert J. Colling, Sr. W.; Daniel A. Bruner, Jr. W.; Timothy Y. Robertson, Treasurer; Edgar T. Stewart, Secretary; Charles M. Price, Sr. D.; Thomas Anglise, Jr. Jr. D.; Nicholas A. Swan, Sr. M. of C.; John Crowley, Jr. M. of C.; Richard H. Whitehead, Chaplain; John Buckbee, Marshall; George W. Jones, Organist; William De Lander, Tiler.

At the meeting of the Board of Police yesterday a communication was received from Mr. W. C. Barrett, counsel for the Bank of British North America. The communication set forth that on the arrest of Henry Missing and Edward Hall, for forgery on the St. Stephen's branch of the bank, $390, part of the proceeds of the forgeries, was taken from Missing, and placed in the custody of Mr. St. John, the property clerk, and it was understood by Mr. Barrett that on the case being disposed of this money would be surrendered to the bank. On applying for it, he was informed by Mr. St. John that $100 had been given Missing and $290 given Mr. A. H. Purdy, Missing's lawyer, by order of Mr. McLaughlin, Chief of Police. Mr. Barrett, in conclusion, asked that the matter should be investigated. The communication was referred to the counsel of the board.

BROOKLYN.

Thomas Knowles and Delia Conway were arrested yesterday and locked up on the charge of picking pockets.

The whole amount received for city licences during the year ending yesterday was $21,830. Last year the amount was $21,639 25.

Rev. W. H. Reed will be installed as Pastor of the Reformed Episcopal Church, corner of Broadway and Fourth street, to-morrow afternoon.

It is rumored that one of the first acts of Mayor Schroeder will be the suspension of Mr. Fowler, the indicted Commissioner of Public Works.

Yesterday afternoon United States Marshal Harlow made a descent on an illicit distillery in the lower part of Columbia street, and seized 4,500 gallons of mash. The occupants escaped.

Dr. William C. Wren, of No. 39 Lee avenue, charged with stealing gas from the People's Gas Light Company, was held to await the action of the Grand Jury yesterday, by Justice Walsh.

Mayor Schroeder's message is a document of fifty foolscap pages, and, it is said, will strongly advocate retrenchment and economy and the simplification of the municipal system of Brooklyn.

John Helman, of No. 54 Nostrand avenue, forty-seven years old, while at work on Prentice's hat factory, in Nostrand avenue, yesterday morning, fell into a vat of boiling water, and it is believed was fatally scalded.

George Wadleigh, the man charged with having abducted or murdered Margaret Mallon, his father's servant-girl, was bailed yesterday in the sum of $1,000, and was afterward discharged, the girl having been found.

William Burke and James Scanlon, boys of seventeen, stole $100 worth of silverware from the residence of Mr. Ostrander, No. 36 Clinton avenue, and pawned it for thirty cents. They were arrested yesterday afternoon and held to answer.

Woodbine Lodge No. 278, I. O. O. F., held its tion Wednesday and selected the following officers: cers: C. E. Hulsart, N. G.; A. C. Brackett, V. G.; E. A. Kutz, R. S.; O. R. Brackett, Treasurer; George Watson, P. S., and George Blackmer, Chaplain.

During the past three years 29,016 persons have been committed to the County Jail. There have been four escapes and six deaths. There have been no contagious diseases in the jail. The fines collected and turned over exceed ten thousand dollars.

Yesterday evening James Gormley, of No. 29 Montrose avenue, and William Kelly, a youth of eighteen, were remanded on a charge of being concerned in the robbery of property of the value of $322 from the apartments of Reuben Cornell, of No. 373 Broadway.

In the County Court during 1875 264 persons were convicted and 57 acquitted. There were 137 civil cases tried, 3,001 orders granted, and 413 judgments rendered in equity cases, and 989 orders in supplementary proceedings. In the City Court 626 cases were tried, 1,501 judgments entered, and 1,950 motions made at Special Term.

The city officers who retired yesterday were: John W. Hunter, Mayor; Charles Adams McLaughlin, Mayor's Secretary; John Emanuel, Inspector of Contracts; James Bell, the Mayor's confidential adviser and General Clerk; William G. Bishop, City Clerk; Dennis McNamara, Deputy City Clerk, and half a dozen under clerks.

The authorities are preparing diligently for the prosecution of Pesach N. Rubenstein, the alleged murderer of Sarah Alexander. The brother of the murdered girl was at Police Head-quarters yesterday, and was closeted for several hours with Detectives Zandt and Butts, who are working under the direction of the District Attorney.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

The members of the American Rifle Association of Mount Vernon will hold a shooting match today at Glen Drake, for the members' cup, valued at $25.

Among the victims of the recent explosion at Bremerhaven was John Lescher, aged twenty-two years, nephew of Mr. Jacob Holwegge, a grocer of New-Rochelle, in whose employ he had been for about ten years. Young Lescher went to Bremerhaven in the steam-ship Mosel about two months ago, to settle the affairs of an estate. He had received $28,000, and after writing to his uncle, Mr. Holwegge, to inquire whether he should bring the money in gold or a draft, went down to the dock with two acquaintances to see the Mosel sail on her return to New-York, when he and his companions were killed by the explosion.

NEW-JERSEY.

The Desbrosses street ferry-boat Delaware collided with the tug-boat Zouave yesterday morning, and the bow of the latter was badly damaged.

Elizabeth Jones, aged sixty-five years, while attempting to draw a pail of water from the mill-race in Paterson on Thursday night, fell into the race and was drowned.

A man giving his name as Henry Creamer, was arrested Thursday night while in the act of robbing the residence of Nicholas Goedert, at the corner of Waldo and Newark avenues, Jersey City. He was committed for trial.

Mayor Trapnagen has issued a proclamation requesting a display of national colors on all public and private buildings to-day, and a general observance of the day which ushers in the Centennial year of our national independence.

William Van Duyn, aged seventy-one, a resident of New-Brunswick, died at noon yesterday from the effects of a dose of morphine taken on Thursday night at the residence of his daughter in New street. He leaves a wife, aged seventy-one, and six children.

Lawrence Boylan, a collector in the employ of E. A. Ireland, was arrested in Newark yesterday on a charge of embezzling $560 40 belonging to his employer. Boylan claims that he had an interest in the business and therefore had a right to keep the money. He was held to bail for examination.

The charges of cruelty to a pupil which have been preferred against Miss Buckholz, a teacher in the Union Hill Public School, were investigated by a committee appointed for that purpose. Mr. Holzman, the father of the child who had been whipped, said that her hands were black and blue. Miss Buckholz denied that she had used any unnecessary severity, and said she only gave the child one or two slaps on the hand with a ruler, which did not even make her cry. The committee will report to the board at its next meeting.

THE FIRE-WORK TRADE.

The first regular meeting of the Pyrotechnic Association of the United States was held yesterday afternoon in the Astor House. The organization was begun in September last, when a preliminary meeting, at which all the manufacturing firms in the country were represented, was held in this City. The society has now about thirteen members, and about one million dollars capital is represented. The objects for which the association was formed are for the protection of the general interests of the trade, and the regulation of the prices charged for the goods throughout the country. Mr. J. J. Detwiller is the President of the organization, Mr. E. F. Linton Secretary, and Mr. Philip Licht Treasurer. The principal subject of discussion yesterday was the great demand for fire-works already being made to be used in celebrating the Centennial. It is thought by the manufacturers that they will be unable to supply the quantity that will be called for on July 4. There are only sixteen manufacturing firms of fireworks in the United States, which are distributed as follows: New-York City, 7; Rochester, N. Y., 1; Boston, 3; Philadelphia, 1; Baltimore, 1; Chicago, 1; Cincinnati, 1; and San Francisco, 1.

PRISONERS SENTENCED IN NEW-JERSEY.

Several sentences were pronounced in the Hudson County, N. J., Court of Quarter Sessions yesterday. Ex-Coroner John Lynch, who had pleaded guilty to a charge of atgocious assault and battery on Michael O'Keefe, was sentenced to pay a fine of $100. In pronouncing sentence the court remarked that the prisoner had been convicted of a similar crime before, and it was difficult to refrain from sending him to State Prison, and that his next offense would result in his confinement there. In default of the payment of the fine, Lynch will be sent to State Prison for one year. James McBride, an accomplice of Lynch, was fined $10 and costs. Francis De Lilly, colored, and a professional thief, was sent to State Prison for five years for grand larceny. Thomas Connolly was sentenced to two years in State Prison for atrocious assault and battery. When the sentence was pronounced his sister fell to the floor in a fainting fit, and created considerable excitement in the court-room. Charles Wilson, Terence Brady, and James White were each sent to State Prison for eighteen months, they having been convicted on three indictments for breaking, entering, and larceny. The remaining sentences were for trivial offenses.

A CALL ON THE DOCTOR.

This is a scene on the doorstep of a Portland doctor, as related in the *Advertiser* of that city: "Is the doctor in?" "He is not, at this moment," said the doctor's wife. "What shall I tell him when he returns?" "Well, ye see, mum, me little b'y was sick a shpel ago, and the doother came to him an' he tould me this he would die, an' he did die; an' now the b'y is tuck sick, an', be gorra, I want him to pass the same judgment on the old woman."

MORE THAN 30 YEARS AGO

DALLEY'S MAGICAL PAIN EXTRACTOR was introduced. Its reputation as a cure for Burns, Flies, Sores, and Bunions is greater than ever. 25 cents per box.—*Advertisement.*

DRUGGISTS SAY that the sale of DICK'S TASTELESS MEDICINES is increasing rapidly.—*Advertisement.*

PASSENGERS SAILED.

In steam-ship Colon, for San Francisco.—Miss Annie Dacy, James Meagher, W. L. Crowell, J. S. Murphy, Mrs. M. E. M. Lowe, James E. Connolly, Mrs. Mary Knight, Frederick A. Merrott, Percy Von Lo